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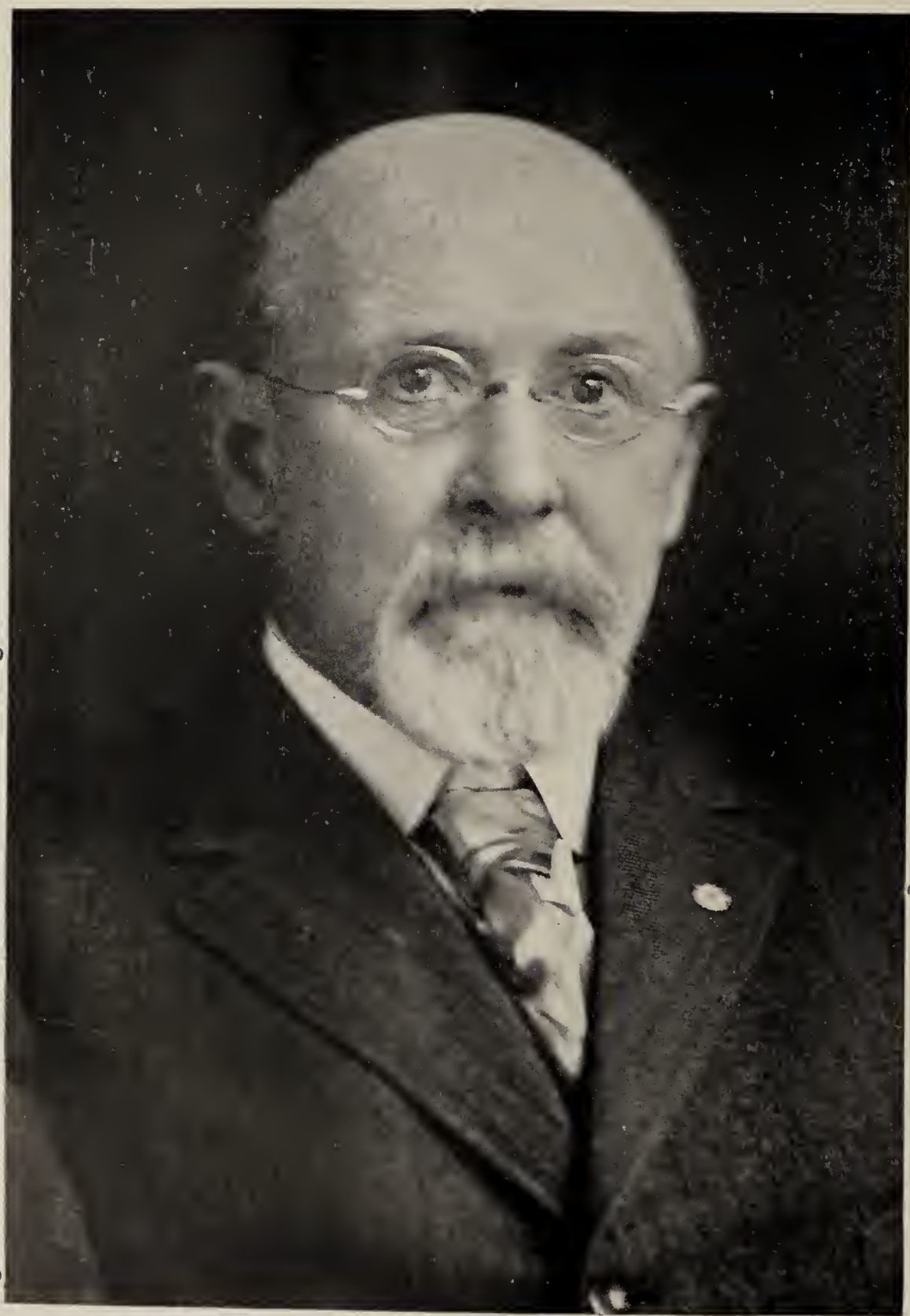












W. J. Hickman



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HISTORY  
OF  
JACKSON COUNTY,  
MISSOURI

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W. Z. HICKMAN

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ILLUSTRATED

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HISTORICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY,  
TOPEKA CLEVELAND

1920







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*To the memory of that noble band of men and women that braved all the hardships, trials and dangers of frontier life, in a new country, in order to make homes for themselves and their descendants, this work is lovingly dedicated, with the hope that some of their grandchildren may find within its pages, something to remind them of the sacrifices made, to accomplish the desire of their hearts.*

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## PREFACE

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"History is easier written than made." I have for years hoped that some one more competent than myself would undertake the task of writing the history of Jackson County, and give to the present and coming generations, a record of the achievements of that band of noble men and women, who left their homes, back East, and pushed their way West to this fair land, inspired with the hope of making homes for themselves and their growing families. People of the present day, as they pass over the fine smooth roads with their cement arched culverts and bridges, and see the many fine farms, with the beautiful homes, denoting comfort and happiness, can form little idea as to what vast amount of work, toil and money it has taken to do this.

In undertaking this work, it will be the aim to give the reader an accurate and truthful statement of the facts as they occurred. In compiling it, old musty records that have lain unopened for years, have been called upon to verify legends.

Of the Civil War in Jackson County, little will be said. Books galore have been written and printed purporting to tell all the facts in the case. There is not a single one of them but has a bias and prejudice of the author shown therein. It would be better if the mantle of oblivion could be thrown over that eventful period from 1861 to 1865, and the horrible memory of the terrible destruction of life and property forever blotted from the memory of all.

When the war with Spain was declared in 1898, we saw the sons and grandsons, of grizzled and gray veterans of the Confederate Army, stand shoulder to shoulder with the sons and grandsons of the veterans of the Union Army, ready and willing to do and die, for the preservation of American institutions. We saw the sons of veteran Union soldiers, serving under Fitzhugh Lee and Joe Wheeler. We saw the sons of Confederate soldiers, serving under Shafter and Brooks to the end of the struggle.

When the war was declared against Germany in 1917 we saw the same thing again. No questions were asked as to what army a man's ancestors belonged; the young men of the country went forward to uphold

the principles for which their forebears fought in the Revolution. Then, why dig up the old skeleton now? Let it rest in peace. There was honor and glory enough for all in the Civil War. It demonstrated the fact that the American soldier was the equal of any soldier on earth. The war with Germany only emphasized the fact.

If a student of history wishes to know the cause of the Civil War, let him look up the history written by the great men of that time. It is the deeds of the pioneers that I wish to record, as far as possible, and pay them a tribute of respect.

I wish to express my gratitude and thanks to the following persons for their valuable assistance to me in this work: Mr. M. L. Webb, Miss Florence Forbis, Miss Mary J. Chiles, Mr. Isaac Chiles, and many others of Independence; Mr. W. E. Connelley, of Topeka, Kan.; Capt. James E. Payne, of Washington, D. C., and many other friends.

W. Z. HICKMAN.

Independence, Mo., January 31, 1920.

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JACKSON COUNTY COURT HOUSE, INDEPENDENCE, MO.

# History of Jackson County

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## CHAPTER I

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### LOUISIANA PURCHASE

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FRENCH TERRITORY BY DISCOVERY—ACQUIRED BY SPAIN IN 1763—CEDED TO FRANCE IN 1800—PURCHASED FROM NAPOLEON BY THE UNITED STATES IN 1805, FOR \$15,000,000.00—LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION—THEIR LOCATION OF FT. CLARK.

The territory now included in the boundaries of Jackson County, was part of what is known in history as the "Louisiana Purchase." In order to acquaint the reader with the meaning of that purchase, it will be necessary to go back to almost ancient history. Prior to the year A. D. 1805, the territory in which Jackson County is located, was claimed and controlled by Louis XV, King of France, as was so recognized by all nations, although his claims were based on the plea of his by "Right of discovery".

Previous to 1773, the entire continent of North America, was divided between France, England, Spain and Russia. France held all that part west of the Mississippi, except Texas, and the territory that we had obtained from Mexico and the territory acquired from Russia, while under the control of France, it was known as "Province of Louisiana" and embraced along with a great deal of other territory the present State of Missouri.

"The French War in North America" as it is generally known, between the French and English began in A. D. 1752, and closed in 1763.



This war was really waged between them for the possession of the entire American continent. The French were in possession of Canada and Louisiana; at the close of this war, France gave up her share of the continent, and Spain came into possession of the territory west of the Mississippi River, while Great Britain retained Canada and the regions northward, having obtained that territory by conquest, in the war with France. For about thirty-seven or thirty-eight years, the territory now embraced within the limits of Missouri, remained as a part of the possession of Spain and then went back to France by treaty, October 1, 1800. The star of the great Napoleon had risen like some great planet and was spreading alarm and disaster to almost all of the countries of the old world. He was not only one of the greatest organizers the world had seen, up to that time, but was among the greatest generals. He had a scheme on the one hand, for penetrating to India, on the other hand for regaining and restoring the magnificent New France in America, to which had come to Louis XV such catastrophe, and to this we must look.

Spain, to whom Louisiana had been ceded in 1762 was at the close of the century sinking more and more into bankruptcy, which had been so long coming on. Napoleon, now First Consul, having been made eager and confident, through the success of his mighty plans, determined to take back from her the great province in North America, which had been taken from France in the days of her adversity. Acting according to his usual manner with weaker nations, he proceeded to carry out his plans with very little ceremony. Giving to Spain a small Italian possession he took in exchange, Louisiana, and prepared as fast as possible a fleet and army to confirm his hold against all comers. Victor, soon to be one of his most brilliant marshals, was to be the leader. The United States was to be treated as Spain had already been. New France was to be restored with all the promise it had had before the death of Montcalm. There were delays that even with Napoleon's energy and force could not hurry. Spain, though weak, found ways to prolong matters with diplomacy. San Domingo, where the blacks had revolted, must be subdued, as a preliminary. By the hand of the negroes, assisted by their terrible ally, the yellow fever, many thousands perished, though they had before been victorious in Egypt and at Marengo.

When at last all was ready, the European skies were darkened with impending war. In the meantime, trouble was brewing in America. Spain controlled both banks of the Mississippi, at New Orleans, and claimed the right to close the river to all commerce except the Spanish. The settlers

of Kentucky, Tennessee and other parts of the Mississippi valley, were demanding an open outlet through New Orleans to the Gulf of Mexico and the rest of the world wherever they wished to trade. This controversy was serious. Could Napoleon, with all of his power and resources, afford in an altercation with America, when every resource might soon be demanded at home? A weaker man might have felt that he was committed to the American trade and pushed it through, let the cost be what it might; but Napoleon measured the crisis accurately, gave up the plan so long wished and worked for and entered at once upon a new scheme. He determined, that if he could not rule two continents, he would at least be the master of Europe.

When Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the United States was inaugurated in A. D. 1801, he was confronted with more difficulties than any of his predecessors, among them was the necessity of placating the South and West sections that had rendered him such powerful aid in his election, which were exasperated, almost beyond endurance, because their outlet to the sea was blocked by the Spaniards. When it became known that Louisiana had been retroceded by Spain to France, the excitement increased, for it was thought that the more vigorous policy upon which Spain had entered had been inspired by France, which expected soon to be in possession and would certainly embarrass the United States.

Mr. Jefferson was a man of peace, wise, humane and of good moral courage. The very air was full of war talk. Congress, under Federalist influence, considered a plan for appropriating \$5,000,000.00 and enlisting an army of 50,000 men to seize the mouth of the Mississippi before the French could get possession of the country. Mr. Jefferson had loved the French and could not believe they had any animosity toward America. That confidence, and his desire that the peaceful relations then existing between France and America should be maintained, caused him to try to reach another way out of the trouble, rather than appeal to the Court of Arms.

Soon after his inauguration, he sent Livingston to Paris, with instructions to arrange, if possible, a settlement of all controversies upon a friendly basis. In the meantime, the turmoil increased and besides, Mr. Livingston, he sent Mr. James Monroe, giving him \$2,000,000.00 cash in hand and giving him full power to contract for the purchase of New Orleans and Florida. He had no thought of purchasing the great country West of the Mississippi, River. He had in mind, however, a plan to make explorations of it, although it was nominally Spanish territory. That part



of the country was almost as little known at that time, as the antarctic regions are today. Mr. Jefferson's private secretary, at that time was Captain Meriwether Lewis, of the regular army. Captain Lewis was a finely educated man, very enterprising, and filled with all the ambition that young officers usually have. He and Mr. Jefferson had discussed plans for an expedition into the untracked desert. Mr. Jefferson's appointee, Mr. Livingston, had worked on his mission for many months in vain. When his co-laborer, Mr. Monroe, arrived in Paris, they were met with a much larger proposition than either of them had ever considered, or dreamed of. The policy of the French government had been completely changed.

The old friend of the negotiation, Barbe Marbois, Minister of the Treasury, who had lived in America, came to them from Napoleon demanding that they should buy, not simply New Orleans and the mouth of the river, but the vast Louisiana Territory; that the purchase price should not be \$2,000,000 but \$15,000,000 and that the bargain should be signed and sealed at once. While they had no specific instructions to make such a purchase, they yielded to the will of Napoleon, assumed the risk and consummated the deal. As soon as the deal was closed, Napoleon knowing that the Louisiana Territory would never fall into the hands of England, began to threaten them, as well as Austria.

In due time news reached Mr. Jefferson of what had been done. He believed fully that the Constitution gave the President no authority to make such purchase. He, along with a great many other Americans, believed what had been bought was worthless. The administration was sick at heart over the situation. The opposition was furious and raised a great roar of denunciation and objection.

On April 30th, A. D. 1805, France deeded it to the United States for and in consideration of the agreed amount to-wit: \$15,000,000.00. The payments were made as follows: \$11,250,000 cash, the remainder, \$3,750,000, in liquidated claims, that certain citizens of the United States held against France.

From the foregoing it will be learned, that France has twice, and Spain once, held sway over the territory now occupied by the State of Missouri.

The great financial needs of Napoleon gave the government of the United States the chance to acquire another vast part of North America to itself. As months passed by the confusion and anger that the purchase had caused subsided. It made no difference how much the Eastern people saved and served, the South and West were well pleased with the result.

The mouth of the Mississippi River was opened to commerce to and from the whole world, and the great West was opened to whosoever wished to enter therein.

The vast stretch of wilderness, an unknown country, lying west of the great river, where the foot of white men had scarcely been set. Its resources and boundaries were only to be known from explorations and observations. When Congress met in October, A. D. 1803, a great majority sustained the purchase, and on the 31st day of that month, authorized the President to take possession of it and provide a temporary government for the same. As soon as all matters had been finally arranged Mr. Jefferson, commissioned Captain Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to organize a party, and explore the country from the Mississippi River to the Pacific. These two young men were Virginians and had descended from the hardy pioneers that had conquered the wilderness of their native state. They had not been raised in the lap of luxury and idleness, but had grown up with the idea installed into them that when called upon for duty, they must respond and carry into their work every ounce of force and energy of which they were capable.

Immediately after their appointment, or detail was ordered, they began their preparation for the long, arduous and unknown duty. They selected a force of about forty young, strong, healthy men and swore them into the service of the United States army. On the 14th day of May, A. D. 1804, they set out from St. Louis to cross the continent. They had a boat 55 feet long rowed by 22 oars. It was so made, that by raising the sides built up in the center, it could be made into a kind of stockade for protection in case of an attack from the Indians.

The party started from what is known as the mouth of Wood River, a small stream that empties into the Mississippi River, just opposite the mouth of the Missouri River. Captain Lewis followed his instructions to the letter and kept a diary of every day's trails, together with a report of what he saw. On the 23rd day of June, we find the following: "The winds were against us this morning and became so violent that we made only three and one-half miles and were obliged to lie to during the day at a small island. This is separated from the northern side of the narrow channel which can not be passed by boats, being choked by trees and drift wood. Directly opposite on the south is a high commanding position, more than seventy feet above high water mark and overlooking the river, which is here of but little width. This spot has many advantages for a fort and trading house with the Indians."

This is the spot where the government located Fort Clark, the name of which was afterward changed to Fort Osage, in the year A. D. 1808. When Fort Osage was built it was the furthest west of any military establishment in North America.

During all the time that England, France and Spain were claiming to own all of Louisiana, there were another set of claimants that had to be dealt with, that is, the Indians. They based their claims upon the grounds of "discovery and possession". When Columbus discovered America he found them in this country and in absolute possession of it, and by all laws of fairness and justice, it was theirs.



## CHAPTER II

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### INDIAN TREATY OF 1808.

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INDIAN TERRITORIAL CLAIMS—RELINQUISHED BY TREATY NOV. 10, 1808—TERRITORY EAST OF FORT CLARK—TEXT OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENT—PETER CHAUTEAU, COMMISSIONER—SIGNED BY CHIEFS AND WARRIORS OF GREAT AND LITTLE OSAGE NATIONS.

Some facetious writer has said that the first thing the Pilgrim Fathers did when they landed from the Mayflower was to fall upon their knees, the next thing was to fall upon the "Aboriginees". The Osage Indians laid claim to all that part west of the Mississippi River and north of the Arkansas River. The government, wishing to maintain friendly relations with them entered into a solemn treaty with them, in which they relinquished their claim to all the land lying east of a line beginning at Fort Clark and running south to the Arkansas River, down said river to the Mississippi, up the same to the mouth of the Missouri River, up same to the beginning. That line embraced a strip of land three miles wide on the eastern side of Jackson County.

This treaty was made on November 10, 1808, and in order to give a clear idea of the whole transaction it is given here in full.

#### TREATY WITH THE OSAGES, 1808, NOVEMBER 10.

Articles of a treaty made and concluded on the right bank of the Missouri, about five miles above Fire Prairie in the territory of Louisiana, the tenth day of November in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eight, between Peter Chauteau, esquire, agent for the Osage, and specially commissioned and instructed to enter into same by his excellency Meriwether Lewis, Governor and Superintendent of Indian affairs

for the territory aforesaid, in behalf of the United States of America, of the one part, and the chiefs and warriors of the Great and Little Osage, for themselves and their nations, respectively on the other part.

#### ARTICLE I.

The United States being anxious to promote peace, friendship and intercourse with the Osage tribes, to afford them every assistance in their power and to protect them from the insults and injuries of other tribes of Indians, situated near the settlements of the white people, have thought proper to build a fort on the right bank of the Missouri, a few miles above the Fire Prairie, and do agree to garrison the same with as many regular troops as the President of the United States may, from time to time, deem necessary for the protection of all orderly, friendly and well disposed Indians of the Great and little Osage nations, who reside at their place, and who do strictly conform and pursue the counsels or administrations of the President of the United States through his subordinate officers.

#### ARTICLE II.

The United States being also anxious that the Great and Little Osage, resident as aforesaid, should be regularly supplied with every species of merchandise, which their comfort hereafter require, do engage to establish at this place, and permanently to continue at all seasons of the year, a well assorted store of goods, for the purpose of bartering with them, on moderate terms, for their peltries and furs.

#### ARTICLE III.

The United States agree to furnish at this place, for the use of the Osage nations, a blacksmith shop and tools to mend their arms and utensils of husbandry and engage to build them a horse-mill or water-mill; also to furnish them with ploughs and to build for the great chief of the Little Osage, a strong block house in each of their towns, which are to be established near this fort.

#### ARTICLE IV.

With a view to quiet the animosities which, at the present exist between the inhabitants of the territory of Louisiana and the Osage nations, in consequence of the lawless depredations of the latter, the United States do further agree to pay their own citizens, the full value of such property



as they can legally prove to have been stolen or destroyed by the said Osage, since the acquisition of Louisiana, by the United States provided the same does not exceed the sum of five thousand dollars.

#### ARTICLE V.

In consideration of the lands relinquished by the Great and Little Osage, to the United States as stipulated in the sixth article of this treaty, the United States promises to deliver at Fire Prairie, or at St. Louis yearly, to the Great Osage nation, merchandise to the amount or value of One Thousand Dollars, and to the Little Osage nation, merchandise to the amount of value of Five Hundred Dollars, the value of said merchandise at the first cost thereof, in the city or place in the United States, where the same shall have been procured.

And in addition to the merchandise aforesaid, the United States have and before the signature of these articles, paid to the Great Osage nation the sum of Eight Hundred Dollars and to the Little Osage nations, the sum of Four Hundred Dollars.

#### ARTICLE VI.

And in consideration of the advantages which we derive from the stipulations contained in the foregoing articles, we, the chiefs and warriors of the Great and Little Osage, for ourselves and our nations respectively, covenant and agree with the United States, that the boundary line between our nations and the United States shall be as follows, to-wit:

Beginning at Fort Clark on the Missouri, five miles above Fire Prairie and running thence a due South course to the river Arkansas, and down the same to the Mississippi, thereby ceding and relinquishing for ever to the United States all the lands which lie East of said line and North of the southwardly banks of the said river Arkansas, and all lands situated northwardly of the river Missouri. And we do further cede and relinquish to the United States forever, a tract of two leagues square, to embrace Fort Clark, and to be laid off in such manner as the President of the United States shall think proper.

#### ARTICLE VII.

And it is mutually agreed by the contracting parties, that the boundary lines hereby established, shall be run and marked at the expense of the United States, as soon as circumstances or their convenience will permit, and the Great and Little Osage promise to depute two chiefs from each

of their respective nations, to accompany the commissioner or commissioners who may be appointed on the part of the United States to settle and adjust the said boundary line.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

And the United States agree that such of the Great and Little Osage Indians, as may think proper to put themselves under the protection of Fort Clark, and who observe the stipulations of this treaty, with good faith, shall be permitted to live and hunt, without molestation on all that tract of country, west of the north and south boundary line on which they, the said Great and Little Osage, have usually hunted, or resided; *Provided*, the same be not the hunting ground of any nation or tribe of Indians in amity with the United States; and on any other lands within the territory of Louisiana, without the limits of the white settlement, until the United States may think proper to assign the same as hunting ground to other friendly Indians.

#### ARTICLE IX.

Lest the friendship which is now established between the United States and the said Indian Nations should be interrupted by the misconduct of individuals, it is hereby agreed that for injuries done by individuals, no private revenge or retaliation shall take place, but instead thereof complaints shall be made by the party injured to the other, by the said nations, or either of them to the superintendent or other person appointed by the President to the chiefs of the said nation; and it shall be the duty of the said chiefs, upon complaints being made, as aforesaid, to deliver up the person or persons, against whom the complaint is made to the end that he or they may be punished agreeably to the laws of the State or territory, where the offense may have been committed; and in like manner, if the robbery violence or murder shall be committed on any Indian or Indians, belonging to either of said nations, the person or persons offending shall be tried, and, if found guilty, shall be punished in like manner as if the injury had been done to a white man. And it is agreed that the chiefs of the Great and Little Osage shall to the utmost of their power, exert themselves to recover horses or other property which may be stolen from any citizen or citizens of the United States, by any individual or individuals, of either of their nations; and the property so recovered, shall be forthwith delivered to the superintendent or other person authorized to receive it, that it may be restored to the proper owner; and in cases

where the exertions of the chiefs shall be ineffectual, in recovering the property stolen, as aforesaid, if sufficient proof can be adduced, that such property was actually stolen, by any Indian, or Indians, belonging to the said nations, or either of them the superintendent, or other proper officer, may deduct from the annuity of the said nations respectively, a sum equal to the value of the property which has been stolen. And the United States hereby guarantee to any Indian or Indians of the said nations respectively, a full indemnification for any horses, or other property, which may have been stolen from them by any of their citizens; *Provided*, that the property so stolen can not be recovered, and that sufficient proof was provided that it was actually stolen by a citizen of the United States, and the said nations of the Great and Little Osage engage on the requisition or demand of the President of the United States, or of the superintendent to deliver up any white man resident among them.

#### ARTICLE X.

The United States receive the Great and Little Osage Nations into their friendship and under their protection; and the said nations, on their part, declare that they will consider themselves under the protection of no other power, whatsoever; disclaiming all right to cede, sell or in any manner transfer their lands to any foreign power, or to citizens of the United States or inhabitants of Louisiana, unless duly authorized, by the President of the United States to make the said purchase, or accept the said purchase or accept the said cession on behalf of the government.

#### ARTICLE XI.

And if any person or persons, for hunting or other purposes shall pass over the boundary line as established by this treaty, into the country reserved for the Great and Little Osage nations, without license of the superintendent, or other proper officer, they, the said Great and Little Osage, or either of them, shall be at liberty to apprehend such unlicensed hunters, or other persons, and surrender them together with their property, but without other injury, insult or molestation to the superintendent of Indian affairs, or to the agent nearest the place of arrest, to be dealt with according to law.

#### ARTICLE XII.

And the chiefs and warriors, as aforesaid, promise and engage that neither the Great nor Little Osage nations will ever, by sale, exchange or



as presents, supply any tribe of Indians, not in amity, with the United States, with guns, ammunitions or other implements of war.

#### ARTICLE XIII.

This treaty shall take effect and be obligatory on the contracting parties, as soon as the same shall have been ratified by the President by and with the advice of the Senate of the United States.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the said Peter Chouteau, commissioned and instructed as aforesaid and the chiefs and the warriors of the Great and Little Osage nations of Indians, have hereunto set their hand and affixed their seals.

Done at Fort Clark the day above mentioned.

P. Chouteau	(L. S.)
E. B. Clemenson, Captain, First Regiment Infantry	(L. S.)
L. Lorimer, Lieutenant, First Regiment Infantry	(L. S.)
Reazen Lewis, Sub-agent Indian affairs	(L. S.)
Papusea, the Grand Chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nichu Malli, the grand chief of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Voithe Vaihe, the second chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Voithe Chinga, the second chief of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Ta Voingare, the little chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Osa he, the little chief of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Vichinodhe, the little chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Vio Nache, the little chief of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Voi Nonpache, the little chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Quihi Ramaki, the little chief of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Voi Nache, the little chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Paula Voitasuga, the little chief of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Caygache, the little chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Pahevrogussi, the little chief of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Miaasa, the little chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Mangaguida, the little chief of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Mautsa, the little chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nicagaris, the little chief of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Dogachinga, the little chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Taraingare, the little chief of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Naguemari, the war chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)

Nicanauthi, the war chief of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Channelase, the war chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nononbas, the war chief of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
The Pogrange, the war chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
The Cagque, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nonpevoit, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Vesache, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Touchananque, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Caygache, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Lehibi, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Grinachie, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Ni Couil Bran, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Chononsogin, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Lisansandhe, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Mequaque, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Manhegare, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Megahe, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Meghe, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nudhetavai, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Trecaygue, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Vaitasean, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Cahapiche, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Manhevoi, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Taheohiga, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Pedhechiga, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Cheganansas, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nesaque, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Lalechiga, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Panevoiguanda, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Tavoinhihi, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Mithechinga, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Voidhanache, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Manquisa, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Chingavoisa, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Talevoile, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Voiengran, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Scamani, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nura Hague, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Mi Chinga, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)



Pashique, little chief of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Bonda Niqui, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Ne Paste, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Voibisandhe, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nihi Sanga, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nehuahe, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
The Pagranque, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Chahetonga, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Mangenpee, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Voi Balune, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Ponca Coitaniga, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Tasloudhe, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nendolaguelui, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Manguepu Mani, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Ni Canil Bran, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Voi Bahe, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Ouekehamani, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nuranin, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Noguannilayque, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nanhatohe, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Noguinnilayque, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Savoi, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Chonguemonnan, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Mandarihi, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Mandonrana, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Niqueraile, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Chonguehanga, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Pontachinga, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Aguiguida, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Manjaguida, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Voidaguega, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
The Sindhe, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nichigara, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Voihandana, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Voigaspache, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Manyvoile, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Quinihonique, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nognitha Chinga, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Natanhi, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)

Miasa, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Ousabe, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Voichinouthe, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Amanpasse, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Ortsaqahe, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Channohon, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Non Basacri, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Coichongras, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Pedhechinga, warrior of the Little Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)
Bassechinga, warrior of the Big Osage, his X mark	(L. S.)

We, the undersigned chiefs and warriors of the band of the Osage, residing on the river Arkansas, being part of the Great Osage nation, having this day had the foregoing treaty read and explained to us, by his excellency, Meriwether Lewis, esquire, do hereby acknowledge, consent to and confirm all the stipulations therein contained, as fully and as completely as though we had been personally present at the signing, sealing and delivering the same on the 10th day of November, A. D. 1908, the same being the day on which the said treaty was signed, sealed and delivered, as will appear by a reference thereto.

1248221

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have for ourselves, and our hand of the Great Osage nation, residing on the river Arkansas, hereunto set our hands and affixed our seals.

Done at St. Louis in the territory of Louisiana this 31st day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nine, and of the independence of the United States the thirty-fourth.

Gresdenmanses, or Clermond, first chief, his X mark	(L. S.)
Conchesigres, or Big Tract, second chief, his X mark	(L. S.)
Tales, or Straiting Deer, son of Big Tract, his X mark	(L. S.)
Aykichawakke, nephew of Big Tract, his X mark	(L. S.)
Wachawahih, his X mark	(L. S.)
Pahelagren, or Handsome Hair, his X mark	(L. S.)
Hombahagron, or Fine Day, his X mark	(L. S.)
Harachabe, or The Eagle, his X mark	(L. S.)
Hrulahtie, or Pipe Bird, his X mark	(L. S.)
Tawangahah, or Builder of Towns, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nonencache, or The Terrible, his X mark	(L. S.)
Cahigiagreh, or Good Chief, his X mark	(L. S.)

Talahu, or Deer's Pluck, his X mark	(L. S.)
Banghonncheh, or Cutter, his X mark	(L. S.)
Bâsonchinga, or Little Pine, his X mark	(L. S.)

In the presence of and before signature attached to the original.

JOHN G. COMGYS,  
GEORGE MAN,  
JOHN W. HOMY,  
SAMUEL SOLOMAN, June,  
JOHN P. GATES, Interpreter,  
NOSE MANGRAIN, Marque, Indian Interpreter,  
BASIL NASEIER, Marque, Indiana Interpreter.

It will be seen by the terms of the treaty a tract of two leagues (six miles square) was ceded as a reservation for the use of the men and animals used in the government service. The land embraced within the limits of the reservation was designated as the "Six Mile Country," and is known by that name to the old settlers and their families to this day. There is no available record at hand as to when the Government first commenced surveying the lands of Missouri. The first land surveyed in this country was township 49, range 29. That is the township in which Oak Grove is situated and extends one mile east, two miles west and six miles north.





OLD BLUE MILLS, BUILT IN 1830.





## CHAPTER III

### INDIAN TREATY OF 1825

MADE AT ST. LOUIS—OSAGES CEDE ALL THEIR LANDS WEST OF LANDS CEDED IN 1808—WILLIAM CLARK COMMISSIONED TO MAKE TREATY WITH OSAGE INDIANS—TEXT OF TREATY—SIGNED BY CHIEFS AND WARRIORS OF GREAT AND LITTLE OSAGES--LANDS SURVEYED TO WESTERN BOUNDARY OF STATES.

In 1825 the Government entered into another treaty with the Osage Indians, in which the Indians ceded all their land extending west of their former boundary to the Government, which treaty was in words and figures as follows:

Treaty with the Osage, 1825.

Articles of a treaty made and concluded at St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, between William Clark, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Commissioned, on the part of the United States, and the undersigned chiefs, head-men and warriors of the Great and Little Osage Tribes of Indians, duly authorized and by their respective tribes or nations.

In order more effectually to extend to said tribes that protection of the Government, as much desired by them, it is agreed as follows:

#### ARTICLE I.

The Great and Little Osage tribes or nations do hereby cede and relinquish to the United States, all their right, title, interest and claim to lands lying within the State of Missouri and Territory of Arkansas, and to all lands lying west of the said State of Missouri and Territory of Arkansas, north and west of the Red River, south of the Kansas River, and east of a line to be drawn from the head sources of the Kansas, southwardly

through the Rock Saline, with such reservations, for such considerations and upon such terms as are hereinafter specified, expressed and provided for.

#### ARTICLE II.

Within the limits of the country, above ceded and relinquished, there shall be reserved to, and for, the Great and Little Osage Tribes, or Nations, aforesaid, so long as they may choose to occupy the same, the following described tract of land: Beginning at a point due east of White Hairs village, and twenty-five miles west of the western boundary line of the State of Missouri fronting on a north and south line so as to leave ten miles north, and forty miles south of the point of said beginning, and extending west, with the width of fifty miles, to the western boundary of the lands hereby ceded and relinquished by said tribes or nations; which said reservations shall be surveyed and marked, at the expense of the United States, and upon which, the agent for the said tribes or nations, and all persons attached to said agency as, also, such teachers and instructors as the President may think proper to authorize and permit, shall reside, and shall occupy and cultivate, without interruption or molestation, such lands, as may be necessary for them. And the United States, do hereby, reserve to themselves, forever, the right of navigating, freely all water courses and navigable streams, within or running through, the tract of country above reserved to said tribes or nations.

#### ARTICLE III.

In consideration of the cession and relinquishment, aforesaid, the United States, do hereby agree to pay to the said tribes or nations, yearly, and every year, for twenty years, from the date of these presents, the sum of Seven Thousand Dollars, at their village or at St. Louis, as the tribes or nations may desire, either in money, merchandise, provisions or domestic animals, at their option. And whenever the said annuity, or any part thereof, shall be paid in merchandise, the same is to be delivered to them at first cost of the goods at St. Louis, free of transportation.

#### ARTICLE IV.

The United States shall, immediately upon the ratification of this treaty, or as soon thereafter as may be caused to be furnished

to the tribe or nations aforesaid, six hundred head of cattle, six hundred hogs, one thousand domestic fowls, ten yoke of oxen, and six carts, with such farming utensils as the superintendent of Indian Affairs may think necessary, and shall employ such persons, to aid them in their agricultural pursuits, as to the President of the United States may seem expedient, and shall, also, provide, furnish and support, for them one blacksmith, that their farming utensils tools and arms, may be reasonably repaired; and shall build for each of the four principal chiefs, at their respective villages, a comfortable dwelling house.

#### ARTICLE V.

From the above lands ceded and relinquished, the following reservations, for the use of half-breeds, hereafter named, shall be made, to-wit:

One section, or Six Hundred and Forty acres, for Augustus Clere-mont, to be located and laid off so as to include Joseph Rivars residence, on the east side of the Neosho, a short distance above the Grand Saline, and not nearer than within one mile through, one section for each of the following half-breeds, James, Paul, Henry, Rosalie, Anthony, and Amelia, the daughters of Mi-hun-ga, to be located two miles below the Grand Saline, and extending down the Neosho, on the east side thereof and one section for Noel Mangrain, the son of Wa-taw-nagnes, and for each of his ten children, Baptiste, Noel, Francis, Joseph, Mangrain, Louis, Victoria, Sophia, Julia and Juliet; and the like quantity for each of the following named grand-children, of the said Noel Mangrain, to-wit: Charles, Francis, Louisson and Wash., to commence on the Marias des Cygnes, where the western boundary line of the State of Missouri crosses it at the fork of Missouri River, and to extend up Missouri River, for quantity; one section for Mary Williams and one for Sarah Williams, to be located on the north side of the Marias des Cygnes, at the Rouble Creek, above Harmony; another section for Francis T. Chardon; one section for Francis C. Tauon; one section for James G. Chouteau, one section for Alexander Chouteau, and one section for Pelagie Antoya; one section for Celeste Antoya; one section for Joseph Antoya; one section for Baptiste St. Mitchells, Jr.; one section for Louis St. Mitchells; one section for Victoria St. Mitchells; one section for Julian St. Mitchells; one section for Frances St. Mitchells; one section for Joseph Perra; one section for Susan Larine; one section for Marguerite Roman; one section for Thomas L. Balis; one section for Terese, the daughter of Paul Louise; which said several tracts are to be located on the north side of the Marias des Cygnes,



extending up the river, above the reservations in favor of Mary and Sarah Williams, in the order in which they are herein above named.

#### ARTICLE VI.

And also fifty other tracts of a square mile each, to be laid off under the directions of the President of the United States, and sold, for the purpose of raising a fund to be applied to the support of schools, for the education of the Osage children, in such manner as the President may deem most advisable, to the attainment of that end.

#### ARTICLE VII.

For as much as there is a debt due from sundry individuals of the Osage tribes or nations, to the United States trading house, of the Missouri and Osage rivers, amounting in the whole, to about the sum of Four Thousand One Hundred and Five Dollars and eighty cents, which the United States do hereby agree to release; in consideration thereof, the said tribes or nations, do hereby release and relinquish their claims upon the United States, for regular troops to be stationed, for their protection, in garrisons, at Fort Clark, and, also, for furnishing of a blacksmith at that place, and the delivery of merchandise at Fire Prairie, as is provided for in the first, third and fifth articles of the treaty, concluded on the tenth day of November One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eight.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

It appearing that the Delaware nation have various claims against the Osage which the latter have not had it in their power to adjust, and the United States, being desirous to settle, finally and satisfactorily all demands and differences, between the Delaware and Osages, do hereby agree to pay to the Delawares, in full satisfaction, all their claims and demands against the Osages, the sum of One Thousand Dollars.

#### ARTICLE IX.

With a view to quiet the animosities which at present exist between a portion of the citizens of Missouri, and Arkansas, and the Osage tribes, in consequence of the lawless depredations of the latter, the United States, do furthermore, agree to pay, to their own citizens, the full value of such property, as they can legally prove to have been stolen or destroyed by the Osages, since the year Eighteen Hundred and Eight, and for which

payment has not been made, under former treaties; Provided, the sum to be paid to the United States does not exceed the sum of Five Thousand Dollars.

#### ARTICLE X.

It is furthermore agreed on, by and between the parties to these presents that there shall be reserved two sections of land to include the Harmony Missionary establishment, and their mill on the Marias des Cygnes; and one section to include the Missionary establishment above the Lick on the west side of Grand River, to be disposed of as the President of the United States shall direct for the benefit of said Missions, and to establish them at the principal villages of the Great and Little Osage nations, within the limits of the country reserved to them by this treaty, and to be kept up at said villages, so long as said missions shall be usefully employed in teaching, civilizing and improving the said Indians.

#### ARTICLE XI.

To preserve and perpetuate the friendship now happily subsisting between the United States and the said tribes or nations it is hereby agreed, that the provisions contained in the ninth article of the treaty concluded and signed at Fort Clark on the 10th day of November, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eight, between the United States and the said tribes or nations, shall in every respect be considered as in full force and applicable to the provisions of this treaty, and that the United States shall take and receive into their friendship and protection, the aforesaid tribes or nations, and shall guaranty to them forever, the right, to navigate, freely, all water courses, or navigable streams, within the tract of country hereby ceded, upon such terms as the same are or may be navigated by the citizens of the United States.

#### ARTICLE XII.

It is further agreed that there shall be delivered as soon as may be after the execution of this treaty, at the Osage villages, merchandise to the amount of Four Thousand Dollars, first cost, in St. Louis, and Two Thousand Dollars in merchandise, before their departure from this place, and horses and equipage to the value of Twenty-six Hundred Dollars; which together with the sum of One Hundred Dollars, to be paid to Paul Laise, and the like sum to Baptiste Mangrain, in money, shall be in addi-

tion to the provision and stipulations hereby above contained, in full satisfaction of the cession hereinbefore agreed on.

#### ARTICLE XIII.

Whereas, the Great and Little Osage tribes or nations, are indebted to Augustus P. Chouteau, Paul Balis and William S. Williams, to a large amount, for credit given to them, which they are unable to pay, and have particularly requested to have paid, or provided for, in the present negotiation; it is thereupon agreed on, by and between the parties to these presents, that the United States shall pay to Augustus P. Chouteau, One Thousand Dollars, to Paul Balis, Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars, and to William S. Williams, Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars, toward the liquidation of their respective debts due from the said tribes or nations.

#### ARTICLE XIV.

These articles shall take effect and become obligatory on the contracting parties as soon as the same shall be ratified by the President by and with the advise and covenant of the Senate of the United States.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the said William Clark, Commissioner as aforesaid, and the deputation chiefs, and head men, and warriors of the Great and Little Osage nations of Indians, as aforesaid, have hereunto set their hands and seals this second day of June, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty-five, and of the Independence of the United States the Forty-ninth.

William Clark	
Clairmount, his X mark	(L. S.)
Pahusea, or White Hair, his X mark	(L. S.)
Chingawasa, or Handsome Bird, his X mark	(L. S.)
Wasabaistanga, or Big Bear, his X mark	(L. S.)
Cochestawasoe, or He that sees far, his X mark	(L. S.)
Vanonpachais, or He that is not afraid, his X mark	(L. S.)
Khigaischinga, or Little Chief, his X mark	(L. S.)
Wataniga, or Fool, his X mark	(L. S.)
Jean Lafond, his X mark	(L. S.)
Wacginsabais, or Black Spirit, his X mark	(L. S.)
Hurachais, the War Eagle, his X mark	(L. S.)
Huralee, his X mark	(L. S.)



Manchuhonga, his X mark	(L. S.)
Chongaishonga, his X mark	(L. S.)
Tawangahais, his X mark	(L. S.)
Ponkachinga, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nicohibran, his X mark	(L. S.)
Panimonpachais, his X mark	(L. S.)
Wassinegaistango, or Big Broom, his X mark	(L. S.)
Chanjaishingais, his X mark	(L. S.)
Wabachequand, his X mark	(L. S.)
Wastingais, his X mark	(L. S.)
Ishtassca, his X mark	(L. S.)
Manchehamain, his X mark	(L. S.)
Hangaquechis, his X mark	(L. S.)
Hanhanmani, his X mark	(L. S.)
Watutacut, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nihi, his X mark	(L. S.)
Wababsibhausm, his X mark	(L. S.)
Vagasidda, his X mark	(L. S.)
Tawangahe, his X mark	(L. S.)
Paigaismamie, or Big Soldier, his X mark	(L. S.)
Tagawahais, or Town Maker, his X mark	(L. S.)
Chongaismounon, or Dog Thief, his X mark	(L. S.)
Honiaigo, his X mark	(L. S.)
Hinchaaeri, his X mark	(L. S.)
Wakendaippahobe, his X mark	(L. S.)
Saba, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nasa, his X mark	(L. S.)
Manchan, his X mark	(L. S.)
Manchanginda, his X mark	(L. S.)

## LITTLE OSAGES.

Nichumani, or Walking Rain, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nichuchaisningaiswachinpichais, his X mark	(L. S.)
Waruhagais, his X mark	(L. S.)
Mangaisehis, his X mark	(L. S.)
Manchestpogran, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nonbraheri, his X mark	(L. S.)
Howasahais, his X mark	(L. S.)
Nahachaismingaisohinger, his X mark	(L. S.)
Aquidchinga, his X mark	(L. S.)



Sangaiskanhu, his X mark	(L. S.)
Manpumahi, his X mark	(L. S.)
Manhinouba, his X mark	(L. S.)
Khigaiswachinpichais, or Missouri Chief, his X mark	(L. S.)
Ostisherngais, his X mark	(L. S.)
Hasachais, his X mark	(L. S.)
Hanhanpaiset, his X mark	(L. S.)
Manchaquida, his X mark	(L. S.)
Tressinjais, his X mark	(L. S.)

Witnesses present:

P. Wash, Secretary	I. A. Chardon
Edward Coles, Governor of Illinois	Antonio LeClaine, Interpreter
A. McNair, Osage Agent	James Coleman
Pr. Chauteau	Paul Louisa, his X mark
W. B. Aledander, Sub-Indian Agent	Interpreter Osages
Theodore Hunt	William Melburne
P. L. Chauteau	Noel Dashney, Interpreter
L. I. Honorie, Interpreter	Manchangachan, his X mark
	Thepogrenque, his X mark

In September, A. D. 1826, surveyors commenced surveying all the lands lying west of the former surveyed land and going as far as the western boundary of the State.

The townships were surveyed in the following order:

Township 49, range 29, April and May, 1818.

Township 48, range 29, April, 1818.

Township 50, range 29, May, 1818.

Township 47, range 29, March, 1821.

Township 48, range 30, September, 1826.

Township 47, range 30, November, 1826.

Township 49, range 30, November, 1826.

Township 47, range 31, November, 1826.

Township 47, range 32, November, 1826.

Township 50, range 30, November and December, 1826.

Township 51, range 30, December, 1826.

Township 49, range 31, December, 1826.

Township 49, range 32, December, 1826.

- Township 50, range 32, December, 1826.
- Township 49, range 33, December, 1826.
- Township 50, range 33, December, 1826.
- Township 51, range 31, March, 1827.
- Township 48, range 31, May, 1827.
- Township 48, range 33, May, 1827.
- Township 48, range 32, September, 1843.
- Township 47, range 33, July and August, 1843.

## CHAPTER IV

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### LOCATION AND EARLY SETTLEMENT.

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NAMED IN HONOR OF ANDREW JACKSON—LOCATION OF JACKSON COUNTY—  
ADVANTAGES—FIRST SETTLEMENT AT SIBLEY, INDEPENDENCE AND WEST-  
PORT—FT. OSAGE ESTABLISHED—OTHER SETTLEMENTS IN THE COUNTY—  
EARLY SETTLEMENTS NEAR TIMBER—PIONEER SETTLERS—EARLY SANTA  
FE TRADE—"JACKSON COUNTY, THE PRIDE."

Jackson County was named in honor of Andrew Jackson, the seventh President of the United States.

Andrew Jackson was born in North Carolina March 5, 1767, and died near Nashville, Tenn., June 8, 1845. The distinguishing features and prominent events in this great man's life are too well known by all to need further reference here, but it is no wonder the future greatness of this county was presaged by our fathers with his great name.

Jackson County is located on the extreme western border of Missouri, 160 miles from the south line, and 112 miles from the north line of the State. It is bounded on the north by Clay and Ray counties, separated by the Missouri River, on the east by Lafayette and Johnson, on the south by Cass County and west by Johnson County, Kansas. The area is exactly 385,404 acres or 602 1-5 square miles. Its boundaries are more exactly defined in the following: Beginning at the confluence of the Kaw (Kansas) and Missouri rivers and running due south on the line dividing the states of Missouri and Kansas to a point 18.86 miles from the starting point the southwest corner of the county is reached; thence due east on the line dividing the counties of Jackson and Cass to southeast corner of section thirty-three (33), township forty-seven (47) north of the Base Line, and range twenty-nine (29) west of the Fifth Principal Meridian, a dis-

tance of 26.27 miles the southeast corner of the county is established; thence north on the line dividing Jackson from Johnson and Lafayette to the Missouri River a distance of 21.57 miles, thence in a westerly course following the meanderings of the river a distance of 40 miles to the point of starting.

The south and east lines were run by the land surveyors who surveyed most of the country in this vicinity, at a magnetic variation of from  $7^{\circ} 30'$  to  $9^{\circ}$ , and the west line of the county was established by the commission appointed to locate the western boundary of Missouri, Sept. 23, 1823, at the true variation of  $11^{\circ} 8'$ . The latitude of the mouth of the Kaw (Kansas) River, is exactly  $39^{\circ} 4'$ , that of Kansas City and Independence being the same. The longitude of Kansas City is  $94^{\circ} 30'$  west.

Beginning at the southeast corner of Jackson County, for a distance of six miles Johnson County forms its eastern boundary, the remaining 15.57 miles to the Missouri River is the dividing line between Lafayette and Jackson. Beginning with the northeast corner of Jackson County, the Missouri forms the boundary line between Ray and Jackson for a distance of nine or ten miles, and for the remainder of the distance it separates Jackson and Clay counties. The center of Jackson County is 270 miles a little north of west of St. Louis by the shortest railroad line. By the Missouri Pacific Railroad, Kansas City is 282 miles from St. Louis, 157 miles from Jefferson City. By the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad, Kansas City is 530 miles from Chicago. By the Chicago and Alton Railroad, the distance is 489 miles. At Kansas City, the northwest corner of the county, the Missouri River makes a great bend from the south to the east, and from thence pursues an easterly course till it unites its waters with the Mississippi. No other county in the State is so favorably located as Jackson. It is in the heart of the best agricultural region in the Missouri Valley, and enjoys the center of traffic for western Missouri and eastern Kansas. Situated as it is in the exact geographical center of the Republic, north and south, and only a few miles east of the geographical center east and west, and possessing natural and developing resources superior to all other sections of the country, the future greatness of Jackson County is almost beyond our comprehension.

It is evident from all sources that the first settlement in Jackson County was at Fort Osage, on the Missouri River, afterward called Sibley. The government had established this for the purpose of frontier defense, and also to trade with the Indians. It is understood that Lewis and Clark made their discoveries along this county's northern border in the year



1804, and Fort Osage was established four years later. For nearly twenty years there were no important permanent settlements within the limits of the county, but just as soon as the Indian title was extinct the county was settled and organized. At Fort Osage there was a ferry across the Missouri River, and all along to the present time it has been more or less used for crossing. Settlements were afterward made in the neighborhood at Blue Mills, and what was known as the "Hudspeth Settlement." This was eight or ten miles a little north of east, of Independence, on the road to Sibley. William Hudspeth, William Franklin, Christopher, Joel and Richard Childs, Thomas Potts, Sr., and Jr., David Bittle, Lynchburg Adams, Lewis Franklin, Jesse Morrow, William Huntsucker, John Hambright, Michael Rice and many others, were among early and prominent settlers of that vicinity. A mill was built and operated on the east side of Little Blue by Michael Rice. At an early day a school was taught in the neighborhood by George S. Parks. In this vicinity was built the first church in the county, called the "Six Mile Baptist Church."

Settlements were next made at Independence, then at Westport, then Lone Jack, then Blue Springs, then Kansas City, and many other points, such as New Santa Fe, Hickman's Mills, Stony Point, Wayne City, Oak Grove, Pink Hill, Greenwood, Lees Summit, Raytown Buckner, and others.

The early settlements were all in or near the timber or some spring of water, the settlers thinking the prairie land not only difficult to be subdued, but actually worthless as far as agricultural purposes were concerned. When they first commenced breaking the prairie they used the "barshear" plow, to which they attached from four to eight yoke of oxen. Independence was located for the seat of justice in March, 1827, and from that time it became the most important point in the county, both in size and business. Soon the Santa Fe trade, of which more particular mention will hereafter be made, sprang up, and soon rendered Independence a growing city of extensive commerce on the prairie. Among some of the early settlers were John O. Agnew, Solomon Fournoy, Robert Rickman, William Lawrence, Leonard H. Renick, Henry Baker, Samuel C. Owens, John R. Sweargengen, Russell Hicks, John W. Moodie, Reuben Wallace, Joseph H. Reynolds, Samuel Weston, Robert Weston, John Lewis, Richard McCarty, Lewis Franklin, Allen Chandler, S. D. Lucas, Richard Friscoe, John McCoy, William McCoy, Alexander Todd, Henry Ruby, Reuben Ruby, and others. After a correct enumeration in the fall of 1834, it was found that the town of Independence contained just 250 inhabitants.

Westport was the next place to become settled after the town of Inde-

pendence and vicinity; and after the Santa Fe trade had found its chief starting point at Independence, for several years it gradually transferred a portion of it to Westport. J. C. McCoy, who now resides in Johnson County, Kansas, laid out the town, and was one of its principal settlers for some time. Robert Johnson was another early settler there; James McGee and sons, John Harris, Jacob Ragan, William Matney, Johnston Lykens, and many more, were among the early settlers in the vicinity of Westport. Before Kansas City became of any commercial importance Westport was a flourishing town, with a large Santa Fe trade.

Perhaps the next settlement was made at Lone Jack, where families had clustered in the vicinity, and became very much attached to the place. Lone Jack was thus named from a large jack oak tree, which stood alone there in the prairie. It has since been a post-village of considerable importance. Among the early settlers in the vicinity we mention the names of Warham Easley, Galen Cabe, John Snow, Stephen Easley and John Daniel. This was the principal settlement in the southeastern portion of the county, and here their township elections were held.

Kansas City was not settled for a long time after Sibley, Independence and Westport. As late as 1839 wild deer, wolves and wild turkeys inhabited those bluffs and valleys, where Kansas City now stands, undisturbed by man; there were large trees and thick underbrush, which made it most emphatically a wilderness. In the month of December, 1839, Mr. H. G. Rees, who later lived at Independence, crossed the river from Kansas City to Harlem, at a point just below the present great railroad bridge, and when about to step upon the ferry boat a large flock of wild turkeys came from the opposite shore, sailing over his head, and alighted only a few yards distant. When the turkeys saw the men they ran up the bluff into the unsettled wilderness, where the business portion of Kansas City is now located. Mr. Rees had remained over night in an old log hut among the trees, on the south side of the river, in which Thomas Smart then lived. Blankets were nailed upon the inside of the cabin, to break the wind from those endeavoring to keep warm within; the chinks between the logs had not been plastered with mud, and it was difficult to keep warm.

New Santa Fe was also an early but not very important settlement. It was on the direct route of travel for those starting from Independence engaged in the Santa Fe trade, situated near the southwest corner of the county on the Kansas State line. Most of the early settlers in this section went to Independence and Westport for supplies. They usually lived in

the timber and ate hominy and potatoes, frequently having no bread. At or near Stony Point, near the south boundary of Sniabar township, there were several early settlers. Near the present site of the village of Blue Springs was the early home of the Smiths, Clarks, Burrises, Dailies, Judge R. D. Stanley, and other. The first prairie broken in Jackson County was done here by David Dailey, near the East Fork of the Little Blue.

JACKSON COUNTY, THE PRIDE.

(By Georgia Shumate.)

She is the pride, Missouri's fairest daughter  
In every artifice by genius planned;  
Church spires, on the firmament above us,  
Write heaven's benediction on this land.  
Heiress to wealth she schools her country's children,  
Behind her grained walls her bounty's laid.  
Open stands the door for all who enter,  
Old age, vardant youth and merry maid.  
The harvest feast is now prepared. Present she,  
Smiling, her cup to many friends;  
Her winter's wine is made of grape and berry  
Gathered where wild birds carol never ends.  
Round and round her scarf the e'fs embroidered,  
Goldenrod, radiant butterflies from their abodes  
Listen now would you! The music softly playing—  
Hurrah for Governor Gardner and our better roads!



## CHAPTER V

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### PHYSICAL FEATURES.

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TOPOGRAPHY—ALTITUDE OF COUNTY—DRAINAGE—CREEKS AND RIVERS—TIMBER—INFLUENCE OF ON EARLY SETTLEMENT—GROVES, NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL.

The topography, considering the county as a whole, is rather rough as compared with many counties of the western prairie region though areas of considerable extent are comparatively level and others are gently undulating.

The elevation of the Missouri River flood plain is about 740 feet in the eastern part of the county and 760 in the western part, while the high ridge on which Lees Summit stands is about 1,090 feet above sea level. The highest part of the county is near the southwestern corner. From this part it slopes gently northwestward to the vicinity of Kansas City, where the elevation is about 1,000 feet.

The greater part of the county is a plain, cut rather thoroughly by valleys. The only variation from this simple topography is a small area in the northeastern corner, where a lower and more gently undulating plain has been developed on the soft shales that lie below the heavy limestone beds supporting the higher upland plain of the county. This tract lies from 100 to 150 feet below the adjacent upland. Its main body occupies the eastern parts of Sniabar and Fort Osage townships. Its southern boundary lies along the foot of the hills just south of the Chicago & Alton Railroad from Oak Grove to the vicinity of Blue Springs. Thence the boundary runs to the northeast about five or six miles, swings northward about two miles, and then north, continuing northwest by north to Sibley. Along its southern boundary it runs up the valleys of the streams



flowing out of the higher upland in broad, picturesque, covelike valleys. Similar valleys are developed to a slight extent along the Little Blue in a few places.

This area is an undulating to rolling plain. The rest of the county is a high plain, smooth along the watersheds, but in places cut by valleys. The largest area of high, smooth plain lies in the vicinity of Lees Summit. This forms part of the main watershed of the county and from it run high watershed ridges eastward to Hicks City and northward by Blue Springs, to the point where the upland drops to the lowland plain level five miles northeast of Grain Valley. Another tongue-like ridge extends northward from the main watershed between Big Blue and Little Blue rivers to the Missouri north of Independence. Kansas City lies at the northern end of another ridge entering from Kansas and lying between the Kaw and Big Blue rivers. Working back into these ridges and into others which are not so high are many streams, which, with their numerous small tributaries and almost innumerable smaller feeders, reach into every part of the area.

The fringe of high plain adjacent to the outer boundary of the lower upland plain is thoroughly dissected, giving rise to a belt of rough country. Abundant outcrops of rather heavy beds of limestone accentuate the roughness. The larger streams that drain the high upland plains are also bordered by belts of rough country.

The creek bottoms, taken as a whole, are rather narrow, especially when compared with those occupied by streams of equal size in the counties lying east and southeast of Jackson County. This is especially true of the valleys in the high plain. The valley of Sniabar Creek after it enters the undulating lower country near Grain Valley is wider, approximating the valleys of counties farther east. Buckner, Levasy, and Lake City all lie in a broad valley unoccupied at present by any stream large enough to have made it. It opens into the Little Blue Valley at one end and into the Missouri Valley at the other. It is probably an abandoned valley of the Little Blue, one that was occupied by that stream before taking a more direct course northward into the Missouri as it does at present.

Very little of the Missouri bottom land lies in Jackson County. The river flows close to the bluffs on the south, leaving most of the bottom land on the north side of the river in Clay and Ray counties.

The western part of the county is drained by the Big Blue River, the central and larger part by the Little Blue River, and the eastern



SANTA FE RAILROAD BRIDGE ACROSS THE MISSOURI NEAR SIBLEY, MO.



THE SPRING ON CLIFF DRIVE.





part by Sniabar Creek. Each of these streams has a flood plain varying in width from only a few rods to a mile or more, and each is bordered by rather steep rocky bluffs on one and in some places on both sides. A small portion of the drainage in the northern part of the county flows directly into the Missouri River, while a small area in the southeastern part drains into Big Creek, a tributary of Grand River. No portion of the uplands lacks sufficient fall for good surface drainage.

Two abandoned valleys of interest are found in this area. The smaller extends across Kansas City from near the point where Turkey Creek enters the Kaw to Sheffield, in the valley of the Big Blue. This is an old valley of Turkey Creek, which stream formerly entered the Big Blue, but through its own work and that of the Kaw in cutting away the narrow bluff separating them, found a shorter route to the Missouri.

The second abandoned valley extends from a point two miles southwest of Lake City to the Missouri River bottoms near Levasy. This apparently is a former valley of the Little Blue River, which was probably diverted from that course to its present one by a small tributary of the Missouri. There are evidences, however, that a portion of the Missouri at some time flowed through this valley. In several places elongated mounds and ridges occur, containing much sand unlike any found in the upper course of the Little Blue. These may have been deposited during some high stage of the Missouri or may possibly be of glacial origin.

Jackson County has four considerable creeks and many other smaller streams. Nearly all have a general course north and discharge their waters into the Missouri. The largest, Big Blue, rises in the southeastern corner of Johnson County, Kansas, and at first taking a northeasterly course, immediately enters this county at the southwest corner of Washington township; it then follows a course nearly north across the whole township of Washington, forms the dividing line between Brooking and Westport townships, then between the townships of Blue and Kaw and forms a confluence with the Missouri six miles below Kansas City. It has a deep channel and rapid current. On both sides for nearly its whole course there is timber of good quality, and outcropping from the bluffs building stone is found in endless quantities.

Brush Creek, one of its principal tributaries, also rises in Johnson County, Kansas, flows east across the center of Westport township and forms a junction with the Big Blue about six miles from its mouth.

Little Blue Creek has a longer course than any other stream flowing over the surface of Jackson County. It rises in Cass County, near the



Kansas line, and taking a northeasterly course, traverses Jackson County its entire length through the geographical center of the same. It separates Washington from Prairie township, Prairie from Brooking, then flows through the eastern part of Brooking and the southern part of Blue, after which it separates Sniabar and Fort Osage from Blue township. Its tributaries are East Fork and Clear Creek, both of which join it near the center of the county from the east. There is considerable timber along its lower course, but from the center of the county south, timber is not plentiful.

Fire Prairie Creek rises in Sniabar township and flows north and east into Lafayette County and thence into the Missouri. It has numerous tributaries but all are small.

Sniabar Creek rises close by the little town of Lone Jack near the southeast corner of the county in Van Buren township, flows north into Sniabar township, thence east into Lafayette County and finally discharges its waters into the Missouri.

Big Creek rises near Lees Summit in Prairie township flows south into Cass County thence southeast, finding its way into the Osage River a little distance above Warsaw, in Benton County. Rock Creek one of the most noted creeks in the county, though small, forms its head waters southwest of Independence, flows north into the Missouri a short distance below the mouth of Big Blue. There are still other small creeks in the county and among them we mention Spring, Bryan's, Camp, Mouse, Big Cedar and Little Cedar.

The surface of the county is an undulating plane, there being, however, several marked elevations and depressions in the vicinity of the Missouri River and the creeks. The surface in most places is far from being flat, and there is a perfect system of natural drainage. From some of the highest points the eye commands views of exquisite loveliness, embracing the silvery course of river and creek, the waving foliage of trees, the undulating surface of the prairie with cultivated farms and farm houses.

A writer of considerable reputation and a close student of natural history says: "The real beauty of this section can hardly be surpassed; undulating prairies, interspersed with open groves of timber, and watered with pebbly or rocky streams, pure and transparent with banks spotted here and there with timber and again with green sward of the prairie—there are the ordinary features of the landscape. For centuries the successive annual crops have accumulated organic matter on the surface to

such an extent, that the succession, even of exhausting crops will not materially impoverish the land."

Jackson County is well watered, as before stated, by many streams, the principal being the Missouri River. All the streams are timbered, especially in the northern portions of the county. The surface of the earth in some portions is quite broken and uneven, but as these portions are generally covered with timber, they are none the less valuable. In other parts of the county, the land near the streams is rather level in some places, but the very superior system of drainage renders it unsurpassed for agricultural purposes. The high table lands away from the streams are unsurpassed for fertility. The "divides," as they are called, embrace three belts of land about ten miles wide and extending the whole length of the county north and south. This, as well as the county generally, is settled by thrifty, enterprising and industrious citizens. The soil is chiefly a rich loam of vegetable deposit with a porous subsoil. The depth of the vegetable deposit, which has been accumulating for ages, varies from two to six feet, and is inexhaustible in fertility. The ease with which the soil is cultivated, is an important item to the farmer. There is very little waste land in the county. Such portions as are not well adapted to the cultivation and growth of wheat, corn and other cereals are the best for grazing lands. The county presented to the first settlers an easy task in subduing the wild land. Its broad prairies in the south were fields almost ready for the planting of the crop, and its rich black soil seemed to be awaiting impatiently the opportunity of paying rewards in the shape of abundant crops as a tribute to the labors of the husbandman. The prairie of the county is gently rolling throughout its whole extent. The timber is of a good quality, but the original growth has, to a considerable extent, disappeared in some parts.

The first settlements of the county were invariably made in the timber or contiguous thereto. The early settlers so chose both as a matter of necessity and convenience. The presence of timber aided materially in bringing about an early settlement, and it aided in two ways: first, the county had to depend on emigration from the older settled states of the East for its population, and especially Kentucky and Tennessee. These states originally were almost covered with dense forests, and farms were made by clearing off certain portions of the timber. Almost every farm there, after it became thoroughly improved, still retained a certain tract of timber commonly known as "the woods." The woods is generally regarded as the most important part of the farm, and the average farmer



regarded it as indispensable. When he emigrated west, one objection to Jackson County was the scarcity of timber, and he did not suppose that it would be possible to open up a farm on the bleak prairie. To live in a region devoid of the familiar sight of timber seemed unendurable, and the average Kentuckian could not entertain the idea of founding a home away from the familiar forest trees. Then again the idea entertained by the early immigrants to Missouri that timber was a necessity was not simply theoretical. The early settler must have a house to live in, fuel for cooking and heating purposes, and fences to inclose his claim. At that time there were no railroads by which lumber could be transported from the pineries. No coal mine had yet been opened and few if any had been discovered. Timber was an absolute necessity, without which material improvement was an impossibility.

No wonder that a gentleman from the East, who in early times came to the prairie region of Missouri on a prospecting tour with a view of permanent location, returned home in disgust and embodied his views of the country in the following rhyme:

“Oh! lonesome, windy, grassy place,  
Where buffalo and snakes prevail;  
The first with dreadful looking face,  
The last with dreadful sounding tail!  
I'd rather live on camel hump,  
And be a Yankee Doodle beggar,  
Than where I never see a stump,  
And shake to death with fever'n ager.”

The pioneers were in the main, descendants of the hardy backwoodsmen when that was a new country. When farms were opened in that country a large belt of timber was invariably reserved from which the farmer could draw his supply of logs for lumber and fence rails for fencing, and fuel for heating and cooking purposes.

Having from their youth up become accustomed to the familiar sight of timber, there is no wonder that the early immigrants were dissatisfied, deprived as they were of the familiar sight of timber and shut off from the familiar sound of the wind passing through the branches of the oaks.

The most important resource in the development of this western country, was the belts of timber which skirted the streams; and the settlers who first hewed out homes in the timber.

Along either side of the various streams which flow across the

country, were originally belts of timber; at certain places, generally near the mouths of the smaller tributaries, the belt of timber widened out, thus forming a grove, or what was frequently called a point, and at these points or groves were the first settlements made; here were the first beginnings of civilization; here "began to operate those forces which have made the wilderness a fruitful place and caused the desert to blossom as the rose."

Much of the primeval forest has been removed for the building of houses and the construction of fences; other portions and probably the largest part, have been ruthlessly and improvidently destroyed. This destruction of timber has been somewhat compensated by the planting of artificial groves. Among the most abundant of the trees originally found is the walnut, so highly prized in all countries for manufacturing purposes. Oaks, of several varieties, are still very plentiful, although for many years this wood has been used for fuel. Detached groves, both natural and artificial, are found at many places throughout the county, which are not only ornamental, in that they vary the monotony, but are very useful in that they have a very important bearing on the climate. It is a fact fully demonstrated by the best authority that climate varies with the physiognomy of a country.



## CHAPTER VI

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### ORGANIZATION OF TOWNSHIPS

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EARLY METHODS OF ACQUIRING AND SURVEYING LAND—PRESENT SYSTEM  
INTRODUCED—EXPLANATION—NO REGARD TO CONGRESSIONAL TOWNSHIPS  
IN ORGANIZATION OF JACKSON COUNTY—FORT OSAGE, BLUE AND KAW  
TOWNSHIPS ORGANIZED—OLD HARMONY TOWNSHIP—FIRST ELECTIONS—  
BOONE — SNIABAR — WASHINGTON — VAN BUREN — PRAIRIE — WESTPORT —  
BROOKING.

Previous to the formation of our present government the eastern portion of North America consisted of a number of British colonies, the territory of which was granted in large tracts to British noblemen. By treaty of 1783 these grants were acknowledged as valid by the colonies. After the Revolutionary War when these colonies were acknowledged "Independent States," all public domain within their boundaries was acknowledged to be the property of the colony within the bounds of which said domain was situated.

Virginia claimed all the northwest territory including what is now known as Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois. After a meeting of the representatives of the various states to form a Union, Virginia ceded the northwest territory to the United States government. This took place in 1784; then all this northwest territory became government land. It comprised all south of the lakes and east of the Mississippi River and north and west of the states having definite boundary lines. This territory had been known as New France and had been ceded by France to England in 1763. In the year 1803 Napoleon Bonaparte sold to the United States all territory west of the Mississippi River and north of Mexico, extending to the Rocky Mountains.

While public domain was the property of the colonies it was disposed of as follows: Each individual caused the tract he desired to purchase to be surveyed and platted. A copy of the survey was then filed with the register of lands, when by paying into the state or Colonial treasury an agreed price the purchaser received a patent for the land. This method of disposing of public lands made lawsuits numerous, owing to different surveys often including the same ground. To avoid these difficulties and effect a general measurement of the territories, the United States adopted the present mode, or system, of land surveys, a description of which we give as follows:

In an unsurveyed region a point of marked and changeless topographical features is selected as an initial point. The exact latitude and longitude of this point is ascertained by astronomical observation, and a suitable monument of iron or stone to perpetuate the position. Through this point a true north and south line is run which is called a *Principal Meridian*. This principal meridian may be extended north and south any desired distance. Along this line are placed at distances of one-half mile from each other, posts of wood or stone, or mounds of earth. These posts are said *to establish* the line, and are called section and quarter-section posts. Principal meridians are numbered in the order in which they are established. Through the same initial point from which the principal meridian was surveyed, another line is now run and established by mile and half-mile posts as before, in a true east and west direction. This line is called the *Base Line*, and like the principal meridian, may be extended indefinitely in either direction. These lines form the basis of the survey of the country into townships and ranges. Township lines extend east and west parallel with the base line, at distances of six miles from the base line and from each other, dividing the country into strips six miles wide, which strips are called townships. Range lines run north and south parallel to the principal meridian, dividing the country into strips six miles wide, which strips are called ranges. Township strips are numbered from the base line and range strips are numbered from the principal meridian. Townships lying north of the base line are "townships north," those on the south are "townships south." The strip lying next the base line is township *one*, the next one to that, township *two*, and so on. The range strips are numbered in the same manner, counting from the principal meridian east or west as the case may be.

The township and range lines thus divide the county into six-mile squares. Each of these squares is called a congressional township. All



north and south lines north of the equator approach each other as they extend north, finally meeting at the north pole; therefore north and south lines are not literally parallel. The east and west boundary lines of any range being six miles apart in the latitude of Missouri or Kansas, would, in thirty miles, approach each other 2.9 chains, or 190 feet. If, therefore, the width of the range when started from the base line is made exactly six miles, it would be 2.9 chains too narrow at the distance of thirty miles, or five townships north. To correct the width of ranges and keep them to the proper width, the range lines are not surveyed in a continuous straight line, like the principal meridian, entirely across the State, but only across a limited number of townships usually five, where the width of the range is *corrected* by beginning a new line on the side of the range most distant from the principal meridian, at such a point as will make the range its correct width. All range lines are corrected in the same manner. The last and west township line on which these corrections are made are called correction lines or standard parallels. The surveys of the state of Missouri were made from the fifth principal meridian which runs through the state, and its ranges are numbered from it. The state of Kansas is surveyed and numbered from the sixth. Congressional townships are divided into thirty-six square miles, called *sections*, and are known by numbers, according to their position.

Sections are divided into quarters, eighths and sixteenths, and are described by their position in the section. The full section contains 640 acres, the quarter 160, the eighth 80 and the sixteenth 40.

Jackson County, Missouri, lies north of the south line of township 47 north, and west of the center of range 29 west from the fifth principal meridian, and extends to the Missouri River on the north, and to the western side of range 33 on the west where it joins range 25 east from the sixth principal meridian, from which Kansas is surveyed. Congressional townships, as we have seen, are six miles squares of land, made by the township and range lines, while civil or municipal townships are civil divisions, made for purposes of government, the one having no reference to the other, though similar in name. On the county map we see both kinds of townships—the congressional usually designated by numbers and in squares; the municipal or civil township by name and in various forms.

By the measurements thus made by the government, the courses and distances are defined between any two points. St. Louis is in township 44 north, range 8 east, and Independence is in township 49 north, range 32 west; how far, then, are we apart on a direct line? St. Louis is 40

townships east—240 miles—and five townships south—30 miles; the base and perpendicular of a right-angled triangle, the hypotenuse being the required distance.

In the organization of Jackson County into townships, no regard was had to the congressional township boundaries; the county lines, rivers and creeks have, as a rule, determined the limits of civil townships in this county. The "township," as the term is used in common phraseology, in many instances, is widely distinguished from that of "town," though many persons persist in confounding the two. "In the United States, many of the States are divided into townships of five, six, seven, or perhaps ten miles square, and the inhabitants of such townships are vested with certain powers for regulating their own affairs, such as repairing roads and providing for the poor. The township is subordinate to the county." A "town" is simply a collection of houses, either large or small, and opposed to "country."

The most important features connected with this system of township surveys should be thoroughly understood by every intelligent farmer and business man; still there are some points connected with the understanding of it which need close and careful attention. The law which established this system, required that the north and south lines should correspond exactly with the meridian passing through that point; also, that each township should be six miles square. To do this would be an utter impossibility, since the figure of the earth causes the meridians to converge toward the pole, making the north line of each township shorter than the south line of the same township. To obviate the errors, which are, on this account, constantly occurring, correction lines are established. They are parallels bounding a line of townships on the north, when lying north of the principal base; on the south line of townships when lying south of the principal base, from which the surveys, as they are continued, are laid out anew; the range lines again starting at correct distances from the principal meridian. In Michigan these correction lines are repeated at the end of every tenth township, but in Oregon they have been repeated with every fifth township. The instructions to the surveyors have been that each range of townships should be made as much over six miles in width on each base and correction line as it will fall short of the same width where it closes on to the next correction line north; and it is further provided that in all cases, where the exterior lines of the townships shall exceed, or shall not exceed six miles, the excess or deficiency shall be specially noted, and added to or deducted from the western or northern sections or half sections in such township, according



as the error may be in running the lines from east to west, or from south to north. In order to throw the excess of deficiencies on the north and on the west side of the township, it is necessary to survey the section lines from south to north, on a true meridian, leaving the result in the north line of the township to be governed by the convexity of the earth, and the convergency of the meridian.

Navigable rivers, lakes and islands are "meandered" or surveyed by the compass and chain along the banks. "The instruments employed on these surveys, besides the solar compass, are a surveying chain thirty-three feet long of fifty links, and another of smaller wire, as a standard to be used for correcting the former as often at least as every other day, also, eleven tally pins, made of steel, telescope, targets, tape measure and tools for marking the lines upon trees or stones. In surveying through woods, trees intercepted by the line are marked with two chips or notches, one on each side; these are called sight or line trees." Sometimes other trees in the vicinity are blazed on two sides quartering toward the line; but if some distance from the line the two blazes should be near together on the side facing the line. These are found to be permanent marks, not only recognizable for many years, but carrying with them their own age by the rings of growth around the blaze, which may at any subsequent time be cut out and counted as years; and the same are recognized in courts of law as evidence of the date of the survey. They can not be obliterated by cutting down the trees or otherwise, without leaving evidence of the act. Corners are marked upon trees if found at the right spots, or else upon posts set in the ground, and sometimes a monument of stones is used for a township corner, and a single stone for section corner; mounds of earth are made where there are no stones nor timber. At the corners the four adjacent sections are designated by distinct marks cut into a tree, one in each section. These trees, facing the corner, are plainly marked with the letters B. T. (bearing tree) cut into the wood. Notches cut upon the corner posts or trees indicate the number of miles to the outlines of the township, or if on the boundaries of the township, to the township corners." When Jackson county was first divided up into townships it contained three, two of which, Fort Osage and Blue, were each larger than the present county. The following order of the County Court, bearing date of "Tuesday, 22d May, A. D. 1827," defines first, the boundaries of Fort Osage, Blue and Kaw townships respectively. The court met pursuant to adjournment, all the members (Abraham McClelland, Richard Fristoe and Henry Burris) present.

*Ordered:* That this county be subdivided into three townships, to be denominated as follows, to-wit:

*1st. Fort Osage Township.*—To commence eastwardly at the eastern line of this county; thence running with the Missouri westwardly to Prine's Ferry on the Missouri; thence southwardly by a direct line so as to strike Little Blue at Fristoe's Fish Trap; thence up the said creek to the mouth of the Cedar Fork; thence due south to the southern boundary of the county; thence east to the southeast corner of the county; thence north to the beginning—all of which territory lying within the limits of the above described boundary shall compose the township of Fort Osage.

*2d. Blue Township.*—To commence on the Missouri River at Prine's Ferry and run with the western boundary of Fort Osage township to the southern boundary of the country; thence west with said boundary to the southwest corner of said county; thence due north with the State line to where it crosses the main fork of Big Blue; thence with said creek to its junction with the Missouri River; thence down the middle of the main channel of the Missouri to the point of beginning—all which described territory within the aforesaid limits shall constitute the township of Blue.

*3d. Kaw Township.*—To commence at the mouth of the Big Blue, thence up said creek to the state line, thence north with said line to the middle of the main channel of the Missouri River, thence down said river to the point of beginning; all of which territory contained within the above boundary shall compose the township of Kaw.

On the same day the County Court recommended to the Governor of the state for the justices of the peace for Fort Osage township, William J. Baugh, Jesse Lewis and Joel P. Walker; and justices for Blue township, William Yates, Lewis Jones, James Chambers and William Silvers; and justices of the peace for Kaw township, Samuel Johnson and Andrew P. Patterson.

The boundaries of these townships have undergone many and material changes, till at the present time they contain only a portion of what they contained in 1827. At that time Fort Osage contained its present territory, together with Sniabar and Van Buren townships, and the whole eastern portion of Cass and Bates Counties.

Blue township contained what is now Blue, Brooking, Prairie and part of Washington, also more than a half of Cass and Bates Counties. Kaw township then contained its present dimensions, Westport and a part of Washington.

Soon after the county was organized and the County Court qualified, public roads received considerable attention as will be observed from the following reports of road commissioners and petitions for roads. The



first commission of road viewers consisted of the following named persons:

"On petition of twelve householders, inhabitants of Jackson county, presented to the Court by Mr. Aaron Overton, praying for the appointment of suitable persons to view and mark out a road from Joel P. Walker's on the "Six Mile" by the nearest and best way to the county seat of this county. It is therefore ordered by the court that David Lynch, Jacob Powell, David Dealy, Daniel Musno and William Williams be appointed commissioners for that purpose.

May 22d, A. D. 1827."

The next petition of the same kind was during the August term of court and read as follows: "On petition of twelve or more householders, inhabitants of this county, presented to the court by Edwin F. Hicks, praying for the appointment of suitable persons to view and mark out a road from the public square of the town of Independence to intersect the Missionary road on the east side of Little Blue, crossing Little Blue at Fritoe's fish trap. It was ordered by the court that John Cornett, John Cook, James Ross, Perry Brock and Joshua Yates, be appointed commissioners to view and mark out said road the nearest and best way, and make their report to this court on the first Monday in September next."

Various other roads were ordered viewed and marked out, and several commissions reported, the first of which was as follows:

"We the undersigned, commissioners appointed to view and mark out a road leading from the wagon ford of Little Blue to Prines Ferry, in pursuance of an order of Court to us directed, we have viewed and laid out and do report for public use the following road, to-wit: Beginning at the wagon ford of Little Blue and running near a west course with very little variation from the present road as now traveled as the nearest and most practicable route from the said wagon ford of Little Blue to Prines Ferry, and to the greatest east and convenience of the inhabitants, and as little as may be to the prejudice of any person or persons.

Given under our hands this 6th day of August, 1827.

(Signed) JAMES LEWIS,  
ISAAC ALLEN,  
BENEDICT WILDER,  
JAMES BLAKELY,  
DABNEY JOHNSON.

*Ordered.*—That the above road be established as a public highway, agreeably to the foregoing report.

*Old Harmony Township.*—Before the first general election had transpired another township was formed from the south part of Ft. Osage township. This township was named Harmony from the name of the mission to the Indians. It included about one-half of Bates County. The county there was first settled in 1818 by missionaries sent to the Osage Indians by the American Board of Foreign Missions. Harmony mission was established August 2, 1821, and maintained with good success until 1835 when it was abandoned, the Indians having removed farther west and south. The missionaries traveled from New York in keel boats and landed near the present site of Papinville. The Indians received them in the most friendly manner and the missionaries had no difficulty in taking possession of the three sections of land which the government had donated them. They selected for their establishment a beautiful location above high water level partly timber and partly prairie near a little brook which they called Missouri Branch; this with the Marias des Cygnes River which at this place is about two hundred feet wide running over a gravelly bed and easy of access afforded plenty of water. They built a mill, store, blacksmith shop, church and several dwelling houses, also planted an orchard of apple trees. They called the settlement Harmony Mission and dwelt among the Osage Indians for many years, doing what they could to teach and civilize them. After the Indians were removed to the Indian Territory, the missionaries broke up the establishment and located in different parts of the county. In 1861 and subsequent years of the war it suffered greatly, being on the border it became the prey of the Kansas Jayhawkers, and Missouri Bushwhackers. In 1863 Gen. Ewing issued his famous "General Order No. 11," ordering the inhabitants to leave the county within fifteen days, and when that time had expired nearly every inhabitant had crossed its border, and for three years its history was a blank. During these years the prairie fires swept over the land adding to the desolation. In the spring of 1866 some of the former inhabitants returned, but with a very few exceptions not a vestige of their old homes was left, save the chimneys rising above the beds of rank weeds.

The order of court organizing Harmony township was during the May term, 1828, and clothed in the following language:

"Ordered: That there be established in this county a new township with the following boundaries and be denominated the township of Har-



mony. To commence at a point on Grand River where the eastern line of Ft. Osage township crosses the same, thence with the meanderings of Grand River westwardly to the line between Ft. Osage and Blue townships, thence with said line southwardly to the southern boundary of the county, thence with the said southern boundary of the county eastwardly to the southeast corner of the county, thence with the eastern boundary of Ft. Osage township northwardly to the point of beginning on Grand River, all the territory comprised within the aforesaid limits shall constitute the township of Harmony, and it is further ordered by the court that the northern boundary of the Harmony township shall be the southern boundary of Ft. Osage township. And that the clerk be directed to certify the same to the Secretary of the State. May 5, 1828."

At the first general election held in Jackson county, for governor, August 5, 1828, the number of votes cast by the four townships were as follows:

Fort Osage township cast	44 votes.
Blue township cast	231 votes.
Kaw township cast	29 votes.
Harmony township cast	12 votes.

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Total 316

The Presidential election which occurred on the first Monday of November, 1828, at which selection Andrew Jackson was elected President of the United States, the election in the respective townships, was held at the following named places: The election in Fort Osage township was held at the house of Joel P. Walker. For Kaw township at the house of William Johnson. For Blue township at the court house. For Harmony township at the Harmony Mission School House at Harmony on the Marais des Cygnes River; and the judges of the elections in the respective voting precincts were for Fort Osage, Thomas Williams, Stuart Lewis and Zebadiah Baker; for Blue, Aaron Overton, William Yates and Solomon Flournoy; for Kaw, Andrew P. Patterson, James Welch and William Lewis; for Harmony, Nathaniel B. Dodge, Amasa Jones and Samuel B. Bright.

At the same sitting Eli Wadkins was ordered recommended to the Governor for Justice of the Peace for Fort Osage township in place of William J. Baugh who had removed.

The following constables were appointed May 31, 1828, and their term of office commenced July 8, 1828: James W. McClellan, constable

for Fort Osage township; Solomon G. Flourney, for Blue township; William Lewis, for Kaw township.

The next township formed was Boone, the order of court defining its boundaries given in the month of May, 1830: "In the petition of several inhabitants of Fort Osage township, it is ordered that the following district or country be erected into a separate township and to be known by the name of Boone township, to-wit: Beginning east of the county line between townships number forty-seven and forty-eight, thence running due west until it intersects the line of Blue township, thence south to the main channel of Grand River, thence down Grand River to the county line, thence north to the beginning. It is further ordered that Joel P. Walker and David G. Butterfield be appointed as justices of the peace in said township, and Isaac Dunaway constable." At the general election in 1830, polls were opened at the following places:

For Fort Osage township at the house of Nathan Russell, with Anderson Davis, James Lewis and John Patten judges of the election.

For Blue township, at the court house, with John Davis, G. Johnston and John Smith, as judges.

For Kaw township at the dwelling house of Michael Farns, with Andrew P. Patterson, James Welch and William Lewis as judges of the election.

For Boone township at the house of Reddin Crisps, with David G. Butterfield, William Dunaway and Joshua Adams as judges of the election.

For Harmony township at Harmony Mission school house, with Samuel Bright, Leonard Dodge and M. Mederal as judges of the election.

On the first day of November, 1830, the boundaries of Fort Osage and Boone townships underwent further changes.

Sniabar (or Shnee-a-bar, Shne bar) township was defined and named May 5, 1834.

"On petition of sundry inhabitants of the township of Fort Osage, praying for the division of said township, the court doth order that said township be and the same is hereby divided and formed into two distinct townships as follows, to-wit: Commencing on Little Blue creek at Benjamin Mayor's mill, on the upper road leading from Independence to Lexington, thence on a line with said road east to the line of Lafayette county, and that all that section of territory lying north of the aforesaid road, and within the boundaries of the aforesaid Fort Osage township, be and the same is hereby erected into a separate township to be known and designated by the name of *Shne-bar* township, and that all the territory



of land lying on the north of the aforesaid road and within the boundaries of Fort Osage township, be known and designated by the name of Fort Osage township."

On the 23d day of July, 1836, the fractional part of Boone township which still remained within the boundaries of Jackson County, after the organization of Van Buren (now Cass), was attached to "Shne-bar" township.

An order of the county court, February 9, 1836, defines the boundaries of a new township, largely from Blue township, and called Washington. The order is as follows:

"On application of the inhabitants of the south and of Blue and Kaw townships, in Jackson County, the court orders that a new township be formed out of said townships, said new township to comprise the following bounds, to-wit: Commencing at Cummins' mill on Big Blue, so as to include said mill, thence running due west to the boundary line, thence south with said boundary line to the corner of Van Buren (now Cass) County, thence east with said county line to a point opposite the head of Little Cedar Fork of Little Blue, thence down said Cedar Fork until it intersects the main fork of Little Blue, thence a straight direction to the beginning, all which territory lying within the limits of the above described boundary shall compose the township of Washington."

Van Buren township was laid off by order of court May 3, 1837. "The court divides 'Shnee-a-bar' township in this county into two townships by an east and west line running through the center of township 48 in all the ranges that were included in 'Shnee-a-bar' township and make all the county south of said line that formerly belonged to Shnee-a-bar township into a new township to be called 'Van Buren.'" All of the above order was made on the petition of the inhabitants of Shnee-a-bar township.

Prairie township was ordered organized June 4, 1860. "Now at this day comes William Dupuy and S. Maddox and presents a petition of sundry citizens of the west part of Van Buren township in Jackson County, praying the court to divide said township of Van Buren into two municipal townships by the following line, viz.: Beginning at the farm owned by Thomas M. Field and running southward along the line of the county road and terminating at the Cass County line at the southeast corner of the farm formerly owned by Col. James A. Fisher, which said petition being by the court here seen and understood and for the reasons set forth in said petition the court doth divide said municipal township of Van Buren by





STREET SCENE. BUCKNER, MO.



HIGH SCHOOL, LEES SUMMIT, MO.



the line above set forth making all that part of Van Buren township west of said line into a new township to be called by the name of 'Prairie' township, in Jackson County, Missouri, and the territory included in said new township shall be known in law as Prairie township, of Jackson County, Missouri."

Westport township was established by order of court May 17, 1869, and the following is a copy of the order: "The court orders that a new municipal township be formed out of that portion of Kaw township described as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of section 18, township 48, range 33, thence north along the State line to a point 60 chains north of the southwest corner of section 18, township 49, range 33, thence east at a variation of 80° 30' to the center of Big Blue River, thence south in the center of said river to where it intersects the south line of 14, township 48, range 33, thence west along the south line of sections 15, 16, 17 and 18 to the place of beginning, and that said township be called Westport township."

Brooking township was organized by order of County Court, March 13, 1872. "The court orders that a new municipal township be formed out of that portion of Washington and Blue townships described as follows: Beginning at the mouth of Round Grove Creek, thence up said creek to where it crosses the half section line running east and west through the center of section 29, township 49, range 32, thence with said line to the range line between ranges 31 and 32, thence south to line of Prairie township, thence west to Little Blue Creek, thence up said creek to where the south line of section 22, township 48, range 32 crosses the same, thence west with said line to the half section line on south side section 19 of said township, thence north to the center of said section, thence west to Big Blue Creek, thence with said creek to place of beginning, and that said township be called Brooking."

The court on the same day appointed T. L. Cassell constable for the new township of Brooking to serve till the general election, and till his successor should be qualified. He was required, in accordance with the custom, to give bond in the sum of \$1,000.



## CHAPTER VII

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### SANTA FE TRAIL

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FOUNDED BY DR. JOSHIA GREGG—"COMMERCE OF THE PRAIRIES"—COURSE OF  
THE SANTA FE TRAIL—GROWTH OF TRANSPORTATION—STEAMBOATS—  
INDEPENDENCE OUTFITTING POINT—EARLY OUTFITTERS—EQUIPMENT—  
ROCK ROAD BUILT TO LANDING—EARLY MARKETS—ALEXANDER MAJORS  
—DESCRIPTION OF AN OVERLAND OUTFIT.

In 1825 there was a man moved from Boon's Lick, in Howard County, Missouri, to Jackson County, and settled about four and one-half miles northeast of Independence. Among his other children was one son named Josiah. Josiah Gregg studied medicine, but owing to bad health, in 1834, he decided to take a trip across the plains and rough it for a while in the hope that the change would help him. The trip seemed to restore his health, and he was impressed with the idea of the advantages that would accrue to Independence and Missouri, if the trade could be diverted through here instead of Chihuahua, for at that time all of the present New Mexico was Old Mexico.

Dr. Gregg became a merchant on his own account and bought goods for the Mexican trade. In 1845 he published a work called "Commerce of the Prairies." It is a work written in good style, and gives data of many things, and is considered standard authority on the subject. Dr. Gregg was a well educated man and an efficient surveyor. He explored the country and made maps that were verified in later years. In his work he states that the first attempt made to cross the plains to Santa Fe was made by Captain Beckwith or Becknell, and they started from Franklin, in Howard County, and followed what was known as the Osage trail. Up through Lafayette County and entered Jackson County just south of

where the town of Levasy now stands; thence northwesterly keeping on the right to a point about one and one-half miles south of Ft. Osage; thence a little south and west to the crossing of Little Blue to what is known as Blue Mills. That is the first place south of the mouth of Little Blue where it can be forded; thence southwesterly through to where Independence now stands; and thence in a generally southwesterly direction keeping on the ridge at all times until it crossed the State line at a point where New Santa Fe is now located; thence west keeping on the ridge that divides the watershed of the Kansas River on the north side and the Nosho on the south side. (It is a fact that probably few people know that if a person wished to he could start at the court house in Independence and travel to the Rocky Mountains and never cross a stream.)

The next year, 1822, saw other parties undertaking the trips, and each year saw more and more of them. In Dr. Gregg's work he makes the following statement of the increase of the business:

1822	15,000 lbs.	wagons	70 men
1823	12,000 lbs.	wagons	50 men
1824	34,000 lbs.	26 wagons	100 men
1825	65,000 lbs.	37 wagons	130 men
1826	90,000 lbs.	60 wagons	100 men
1827	85,000 lbs.	55 wagons	90 men
1828	150,000 lbs.	100 wagons	200 men
1829	60,000 lbs.	30 wagons	50 men
1830	120,000 lbs.	70 wagons	140 men
1831	150,000 lbs.	130 wagons	320 men
1832	140,000 lbs.	70 wagons	150 men
1833	180,000 lbs.	105 wagons	185 men
1834	150,000 lbs.	80 wagons	160 men
1835	140,000 lbs.	70 wagons	135 men
1837	150,000 lbs.	80 wagons	160 men
1838	90,000 lbs.	50 wagons	120 men
1839	250,000 lbs.	130 wagons	290 men
1840	50,000 lbs.	30 wagons	95 men
1841	150,000 lbs.	60 wagons	112 men
1842	160,000 lbs.	70 wagons	135 men
1843	450,000 lbs.	230 wagons	380 men

The first two years (1822 and 1823) all of the goods were transported on pack animals. The year 1824 seems to be the first one in which wagons were used for freighting. The first steamboat to ply the Mis-

souri River was called Independence, and went up the river to Council Bluffs, in the year 1819. It passed Franklin, Howard County, May 28th, where a dinner was given to the officers of the boat. In August and September, the same years, the boats, "Western Engineer," "Expedition," "R. M. Johnson," ascended the river with Major Long's scientific party bound for the Yellowstone Country. The new mode of transportation soon began to have its effect on the Santa Fe traders, and they found that the shipment of their goods further up the river made their land haul shorter and less expensive. As the stocks of goods intended for shipment became larger and more merchants engaged in it, the more steamboats were required. The points first competing to this trade were Ft. Osage, Blue Mills and Independence. Blue Mills was situated about six miles northeast of Independence, and soon was a landing place, and it was there that exchange from water transportation was made. An immense warehouse was built to protect the freight waiting to be loaded for the overland trip.

Independence being the county seat and there being no other town of consequence, soon became the American headquarters of the trade and the outfitting point in the year 1831. With the coming of the freighters also came the demand for the outfitting conveniences. The trade demanded wagons, harness, yokes and bows, chains, mule and ox shoes, saddles, harness, whips and provisions of all kinds, and a great many necessary adjuncts. Immediately shops were opened for the manufacture of all such goods. For the manufacturing wagons, among the men who engaged in the business I remember Robert A. Stone. He had his shop at the southwest corner of Short and Liberty streets. Weston and Strode had their shop at the southwest corner of Liberty and Kansas streets, and the old shop is still standing. John G. McCurdy was at the northwest corner of Main and White Oak streets. John Eaton was at the southeast corner of Ruby and Osage streets. Hiram Young, a negro, who had bought his own freedom, had his shop on North Liberty, and in addition to making wagons he made a great many oak yokes and bows.

In making the wagons great care had to be used in the selection of the timber out of which they were made. It had to be thoroughly seasoned and dried and of the very best materials throughout. If not thoroughly dried when put together it would soon begin to shrink and the tires get loose and finally run off the wheel. If there was anything that would make a wagon master swear it was to hear the summons, "Hold on," come up the line of teamsters, and when he had ridden back to find a tire off. It was certainly some job to raise one of those big wagons that



weighed about 2,100 pounds, and loaded with 70 or more hundred pounds of freight, but it had to be done. The lifting jacks were gotten out, the wagon raised, and the props set under, off would come the wheel and they would go to work at it. Sometimes it could be fixed in a few minutes, other times it was the work of two or three hours to get it reset and ready to go. These wagons cost new about \$150.00 each.

The yokes were made out of walnut or linn timber, both of which are light and fully seasoned. The bows were made out of hickory, properly bent to fit the oxen. The first freighters used horses and mules almost exclusively for drawing the wagons, but it was soon found out that the hard roads wore their feet so badly that they could not travel without being shod, and they were soon dispensed with. It was found that a mule's foot would stand the wear a great deal better than a horse's. The first record to be found of the use of oxen for freighting purposes was in 1829. They were used by Major Riley, of the regular army, for hauling government supplies.

For the manufacture of harness, whips, saddles, etc., there were two firms, John Landis and Porter McClanahan and also John W. Modie. These men were busy with a large force of hands in the manufacture of all kinds of leather products. How many men were used in these industries, history makes no mention, but it was a great number. In addition to the work done for the freighters, the influx of new settlers made a demand for a great many plows, harrows and the necessary farming tools. The forge fires were kept going sometimes until late at night to meet the demand and men were working also in the harness shops.

Each teamster had to be supplied with a rawhide whip about 10 to 12 feet long. These were scarcely ever made in the harness shops. The negro men of the country soon heard of the demand for them and took advantage of it. They would buy up beef hides and dress them; in the long winter evenings they would cut them into the proper shape and then plait them into these whips. These they would keep until spring, when the trains were beginning to start, and take them into town and either sell them to the merchants or to the train men direct at a price of 50 to 75 cents each, according to size and quality. Many were the nights, as a small boy, I spent out in the negro cabin watching the men plait these whips. It was Sam Shepherd that taught me how to do it, when I must have been very young, for I don't remember the time that I could not make a nice whip, and in after years, many long night's vigils I escaped by "splicing out" some teamster's whip who had been unfortunate in losing part of his.

Independence was on the boom then, both Mexican and American freighters filled the streets, with the oxen and mule teams hitched to their immense wagons. The "Gee-Haw" of the bull-whackers (as the ox teamsters were called), accompanied with the crack of his long rawhide whip resounded through the streets. The "Carraho," the Mexican muleteer, as he applied his blacksnake whip to the posterior of his lagging animals.

The merchants were as busy as they could be, both day and night. As a rule the Mexican merchants would come in ahead of his train and go to St. Louis or further east and buy his goods, have them shipped by the river to the landing, and there get them. It was not long until the freighters wanted a landing nearer to Independence than Blue Mills. There was found a good rocklanding just north of Independence. It was laid off into town lots and named Wayne City. There was one great drawback to the landing at that place on account of the high bluff on the south. It was always necessary to double teams up that hill in order to get anything like a fair load to the top.

Later on, about the year 1856 or 1857, Santa Fe trade was being transferred to points further up the river, Kansas City was getting a large share of the trade. The people of Independence woke up to the fact that they were losing business. The matter was taken up and it was decided to build a rock road from Independence to Wayne City. The contract was let and work began. An old citizen by name of Miles W. Burford was appointed inspector to see that the road was built according to specifications. They called for a roadway of rock, built on what was known as Telford base, eight inches thick. The peculiarity of this base is that the stone were set on edge and must not be less than four inches thick and eight inches higher, when set on edge and properly sledged down. On top of that was to be a bed of crushed rock eight inches thick in the center and four inches thick at the side. Mr. Burford procured three plank 16 feet and six inches long. Two of them 12 inches wide and the other 16 inches wide. He would set them on edge and make the contractor fill them, then move them to the next place. That was the first rock road built in Jackson County, and stood the traffic longer than any rock road that Jackson County has ever built since.

At the time of the Santa Fe trade business was done in an entirely different manner than it is today. There was no such thing as packing houses then as now. The farmer raised, fattened and killed his own hogs and beef. He depended entirely on the Santa Fe trade to find a market for his surplus meat. Nearly every resident of Independence had his own



smoke house and cured his own meat. The farmer bought his goods of all kinds on 12 months' time. Once a year he settled up with the merchant, the blacksmith or the family physician. He would come into town, go to his merchant, or to other persons to whom he owed an account, and offer to pay part of the bill with dressed pork or beef. If the town man had no account out against farmers he would hunt up a farmer and order as many dressed hogs as he thought his family would need. What hogs the farmer did not sell in that way he would butcher and cure the bacon himself. It was nothing uncommon for farmers to kill as many as 50 or 60, or 100 big hogs in the fall. Then when the Santa Fe traders came in the spring they made a good demand for their surplus. Almost all of the merchants in Independence were what were called "outfitters," that is, they would furnish the freighter with all the supplies of every kind that he needed for his trip. If one merchant did not have an article that was wanted he would go to some other merchant and get it. In a book entitled, "Seventy Years on the Frontier," written by Alexander Majors, he gives the following description of an overland outfit:

An organization of a full-fledged train for crossing the plains consisted of 25 or 26 large wagons that would carry from three to three and a half tons each, the merchandise or contents of each wagon being protected by three sheets of thin ducking, such as is used for army tents. The number of cattle necessary to draw each wagon was twelve, making six yokes or pairs, and a prudent freighter would always have from 20 to 30 head of extra oxen, in case of accident to or lameness of some of the animals. In camping or stopping to allow the cattle to graze, a corral or pen of oblong shape is formed by the wagons, the tongues being turned out, and a log chain extended from the hind wheel of each wagon to the fore wheel of the next behind, etc., thus making a solid pen except for a wide gap at each end, through which gaps the cattle are driven when they are to be yoked and made ready for travel, the gaps then being filled by the wagon-master, his assistants and the extra men, to prevent the cattle from getting out. When the cattle are driven into this corral or pen, each driver yokes his oxen, drives them out to his wagon, and gets ready to start. The entire train of cattle, including extras, generally numbered from 320 to 330 head, and usually from four to five mules for riding and herding. The force of men for each train consisted of a wagon-master, his assistant, the teamsters, a man to look after the extra cattle, and two or three extra men as a reserve to take the place of any men who might be disabled or sick, the latter case being a rare exception, for as a rule there was no



sickness. I think, perhaps, there was never a set of laboring men in the world who enjoyed more uninterrupted good health than the teamsters upon the plains. They walked by the side of their teams, as it was impossible for them to ride and keep them moving with regularity. The average distance traveled with loaded wagons was from 12 to 15 miles per day, although in some instances, when roads were fine, there was a necessity for rapid movement, I have known them to travel 20 miles. But this was faster traveling than they could keep up for any length of time. Returning with empty wagons they could average 20 miles a day without injury to the animals.

Oxen proved to be the cheapest and most reliable teams for long trips, where they had to live upon the grass. This was invariably the case. They did good daily work, gathered their own living, and if properly driven, would travel 2,000 miles in a season, or during the months from April to November, traveling from 1,000 to 1,200 miles with the loaded wagons, and with plenty of good grass and water would make the return trip with the empty wagons in the same season. However, the distance traveled depended much upon the skill of the wagon-masters who had them in charge. For if the master was not skilled in handling the animals and men, they could not make anything like good headway and success. To make everything expeditiously, thorough discipline was required, each man performing his duty and being in the place assigned him without confusion or delay.

I remember once of timing my teamsters when they commenced to yoke their teams after the cattle had been driven into their corral and allowed to stand long enough to become quiet. I gave the word to the men to commence yoking, and held my watch in my hand while they did so, and in 16 minutes from the time they commenced, each man had yoked six pairs of oxen and had them hitched to their wagons ready to move. I state this that the reader may see how quickly the men who are thoroughly disciplined could be ready to "pop the whip" and move out, when unskilled men were often more than an hour doing the same work. The discipline and rules by which my trains were governed were perfect, and as quick as the men learned each one his place and duty, it became a very pleasant and easy thing for him to do. Good moral conduct was required of them and no offense from man to man was allowed, thus keeping them good-natured and working together harmoniously. They were formed into what they called "messes," there being from six to eight men in a mess, selecting the man best fitted to serve as cook, and the other carrying the

water, fuel, and standing guard, so that the cook's sole business when in camp was to get his utensils ready and cook the meals.

We never left the cattle day or night without a guard of two men, the teamsters taking turns, and arranging it so that each man was on guard two hours out of the 24, and sometimes they were only obliged to go on guard two hours every other night. This matter they arranged among themselves, and with the wagon-master. The duty of the wagon-master was about the same as that of a captain of a steamboat or ship, his commands being implicitly obeyed, for in the early states of travel upon the plains the men were at all times liable to be attacked by the Indians, therefore the necessity for a perfect harmony of action throughout the entire band. The assistant wagon-master's duty was to carry out the wagon-master's instructions, and he would often be at one end of the train while the master was at the other, as the train was moving. It was arranged, when possible, that no two trains should ever camp together, as there was not grass or water sufficient for the animals of both, and thus all confusion was avoided.

The average salary paid the men was \$1 a day and expenses. Most of the traveling in the early days of freighting was done upon what was called the "Santa Fe road," starting from Independence, Mo., and unloading at Santa Fe, N. M. The rattlesnakes on that road, in the beginning of the travel, were a great annoyance, often biting the mules and oxen when they were grazing. At first, mules were used altogether for traveling, but they would either die or become useless from the bite of a rattlesnake, and the men would sometimes be sent ahead of the caravan and later on, the ox-teamsters, with their large ships, destroyed them so fast that they ceased to trouble them to any great extent. It has been claimed by men that snakes and prairie dogs, who were also found in great numbers upon the plains, lived in the same houses, the dog digging the hole and allowing the snake to inhabit it with him, but I do not think this is correct. Men came to this conclusion from seeing the snakes when frightened run into the dog holes, but I think they did it to get out of the way of danger, and they lived, too, in the houses that had been abandoned by the dogs. It is a fact that the prairie dogs would only live in one hole for about a year, when they would abandon it and dig a new one, leaving the old ones to be taken possession of by the rattlesnakes and prairie owls. As far as I have been able to find out, there is no creature on earth that will live with a rattlesnake. They are hated and feared by all living animals.



When men decided to go into the freighting business the first thing to be done was to get oxen enough to make twelve head for each wagon. As above stated there were no packing houses to buy the steers, and the farmers kept them until they were four years old. One younger than that was not considered to be mature enough to stand the hard work required of them. The next thing to be done was to employ a man to take charge of the train when made up. He was called the wagon-master. He was selected for his honesty and executive ability. If the freighter was unable to try a whole train already equipped the cattle had to be bought whenever they could be found and in any number the farmer had to sell. The wagon master was given a letter of credit and instructed to buy them. At that time banks were scarce and he frequently had to carry large sums of money with him to pay cash on delivery. Few checks were used and the seller demanded actual money. It can be said to the credit of those men, they would travel hundreds of miles, and pay out thousands of dollars for cattle, and in all these transactions not a dollar was ever unaccounted for.

One of the great desires of the farmer boys of those days was to get to be a wagon-master on the plains. It was a place of great responsibility, and he was subject to danger at all times, but it had a fascination about it that attracted and held men. There is an old adage that says "Once a soldier, always a soldier" that to a great extent was the case with the plainsman. In the early days of the trade the land was all open prairie, from a point about three miles south of Independence it was out there that men would camp so as to have plenty of water and grass for their stock. Generally when trains arrived there the stock would be turned out and herded on the best grass long enough to get them rested up and ready for the return trip. In getting together a new outfit it was generally done at a farmer's place who had good lots or corrals, and it was there the cattle would be sent when bought. After enough had been bought to make up the required outfit, they would all be branded so as to identify them. When matters had advanced far enough teamsters would be hired and everything gotten ready for the start. It was the custom whenever possible to buy two yoke of gentle oxen for each team, one heavy yoke to be used for "wheelers," or those hitched to the tongue of the wagon, and the other for leaders. It did not make much difference about the four intermediate yoke being gentle or not, with gentle ones at each end of the team they just had to stay in place.

If there is any more exciting work than yoking up two hundred unbroken cattle for the first time, I don't know what it is. If the yoking



is done in a corral made of the wagons they are so closely confined that it is not nearly so hard. The cattle are driven into it and a man takes his place at each end to keep them in. Sometimes, if the cattle have been handled when young, it is possible to yoke them without roping them. It is each teamster's right to go in and pick out his own team and yoke them and when he has made his selection, he must keep them the whole round trip. Generally they are not unyoked for a day or two, but left to graze with the yokes on, and in that way they soon get used to the yoke and get gentle a great deal quicker.

One advantage the wagon-master had was in the employment of farmer boys as teamsters. Nearly every farm was equipped with a calf yoke. They were made exactly like an ordinary ox-yoke, only smaller. At that day and time calves were allowed to nurse their mothers until five or six months old, and at that time had become gentle from handling. About weaning time the boys would decide that it was about time that they were broke to work. Then they would be caught up and yoked together. Any boy that has never witnessed the frantic efforts of lusty calves to get away from each other on such occasions has certainly missed a treat. They would jump, buck, bawl and tear around at a great rate. As soon as they found out they could not get away they would quiet down and it would not take long to get them perfectly gentle. The next step was to teach them to pull light loads and learn the commands "Gee-Haw." "Gee" meant turn to the right, "Haw," turn to the left. How the boys enjoyed working them, and such fun as they would have. Many are the sleigh rides I have taken in the winter behind the pair of calves hitched to a home-made sled. They were never put to heavy work until fully grown. A good many of such cattle would fall into the hands of the freighters and, of course, they were easily handled. In order to acquaint the reader with all of the particulars it will be necessary to explain them in detail.

The whole number of wagons in the train were divided into two equal parts, called the right and left wing. When going into camp the wagons to one wing were formed into the shape of the new moon, the front wheel of one wagon drawn close to the hind wheel of the wagon in front of it. The left wing was done likewise, leaving an opening at each end, but wider at the rear end, and the tongues of the wagons all on the outside. When completed the gaps between the front wheel of one wagon and the hind wheel of the other wagon were chained together. All yokes and chains brought inside of the corral and placed by the side of the wagon to which the team belonged. Each wagon kept its place in the train at all

times. It was customary for the wings to alternate in driving out of camp. The wagon that was in the lead of one drive would be in the center on the next drive. When it was time to make a start the cattle would be driven into the corral, the wagon-master guarding one opening, and his assistant the other. When the cattle had quieted down a few minutes, he would give the order, "Go to yoking, boys." The first to be yoked would be the wheel cattle, or those worked on the tongue. They were driven out and hitched to the wagon. The next pair would be the leaders. When yoked they would be driven up to and chained to the hind wheel of the wagon. Then in order each pair would be yoked just as they would be worked in the team and chained to the pair in front of them, and so on until the whole five pairs were yoked. They were then unchained from the wheel and taken out and hitched to the wagon. When all had been yoked and hitched, the wagon-master would give the order, "All right, go ahead." All the wagons of one wing would pull out, then the other wing drop in behind them. When they were all strung out on the road they made a line about one-half mile in length. I know of no prettier sight than to see a full train of nice, clean sheets tightly drawn on each wagon and six yoke of oxen strung out on the road, the teamsters showing brawn and muscle of good health as they walked beside the teams, the long whips loosely wrapped around their shoulders and keeping step to the team.

One of the favorite places of assembling teams was uot where Raytown now is. The grass was fine and water plentiful. If the trains came in from Mexico in the spring they stopped there. A man by the name of Absolem Wray had gone out there and put up a blacksmith shop, to be in close contact with the freighters. He did a general repair work, but did not make wagons. By the time the wagons reached there a great many would need repairing. Tires had to be set, new tongues or coupling pins renewed, new spokes or fellows put in, chains to be mended, or wagon bolts replaced for new ones, ox shoes made and a great many other things done. Soon a Doctor Smith came and located for the practice of medicine. Then it was given the name of Raytown. Although that township of land had never been surveyed or put upon the market by the government, settlers had been coming and locating homes.

On the government map showing the survey of that township are some of the following entries: "Collins Farm," "Howell's Farm," "Davenport Farm," "Brown's Farm," "Judge Davis Pasture," "Wilson Farm," and many others like that. One is marked "Barnes Enclosure." This man's name was Jesse Barnes, and he came from Kentucky in 1839. He brought



his family and slaves with him. He had been out prospecting the year before and had decided where he would locate. Owing to the scarcity of timber and saw mills, he decided to bring his house with him. He bought the material and had it all framed and cut and ready to put together when he got here. It was shipped down the Ohio River to the Mississippi, up to St. Louis and from there to Wayne City, and from there hauled by wagons. Part of that house is standing today, just where he built it, about two and one-half miles southwest of Raytown, on the old Santa Fe trail. Under the then existing laws of the government, no one was allowed to enter more than 160 acres of land. But a little thing like that did not bother Mr. Barnes. He had four sons that would all soon become of age, and as each person could enter 160 the family would be entitled to enter 800 acres. He took a team of oxen and a big prairie plow and went around what he thought would be 800 acres. After he had plowed several furrows around it he put up several signs, marked "Barnes Enclosure." No one intruded on him, and the records show that each of them entered a quarter section, and he secured the whole tract. On his tract was a magnificent spring that burst out from a great ledge of rock in such a way as to leave a cave, and it is known to this day as "The Cave Spring," and it has never been known to fail from that day to this. When the daughters of the American Revolution set up the markers for the Old Trail, one was placed there.

Among the early freighters to Santa Fe, was first, Captain Becknell or Beckwith, Dr. Gregg, Dr. Waldo, William and Silas Bent, Samuel C. Owens, St. Vrain, F. X. Aubrey, Dr. Connelly, Armijo Bros., Samuel Magoffin, E. C. McCarty, Whiting and Otero, William H. Russell, Oldham and Thompson. Later on a great many others were engaged in the trade, some of them I knew well. Irwin and Jackman, Henry and Elija Chiles, S. D. and I. N. Irwin, George W. and A. C. Bryant, Hunter and Simpton, Hunter and Scruggs, Majors, Russell and Waddell, James B. Yager, Augustus and Peter Byrum, S. S. and C. R. Barnes were among the number.

The last train outfitted for the west in Independence was one belonging to S. M. and I. N. Irwin, 1867. They had gotten a contract to haul government supplies from Ft. Leavenworth to Camp Supply in the Indian Territory. They found it a great deal cheaper to get the supplies here and move the train from here all complete rather than to buy up there. Hiram Young made the wagons, yokes and bows.



It was the ambition of every farmer boy to cross the plains and kill buffalo, and every one of the neighbors boys made the round trip and came back home to tell his experience, then he was the hero of the hour and all of his friends, were sure to come and see him and listen of his tales of adventure. That would enthuse his hearers and he would be ready to go, whenever father would give his consent. A trip in those days was great schooling for young men. If you want to bring out and develop a boy there is nothing that would do it as quickly as to put a responsibility upon him and see that he fulfills it and measures up to the standard. The first lesson that he had to learn there was there was to be no shirking any duty that was put upon him, and it had to be done at the right time. When a train load of goods was put into the hands of the wagon master and his teamsters they were expected to deliver them to the proper person, at their destination, and if necessary to fight for them; it was their duty to do it. They accepted the employment with that understanding and they were willing to defend them at any or all costs.

The distance from Independence to Santa Fe was about 800 miles by what was known as the Cimarron route. That route crossed the Arkansas River where the town of Cimarron, Kansas, now stands. That point is about 150 miles west of where the trail struck the Arkansas River, at what is known as the Great Bend. After crossing the river, the road crossed a long divide between the waters of the Arkansas and Cimarron Rivers. That was a drive of about 60 miles without a drop of water, except when a heavy rain would fill up the buffalo wallows. The road followed up the Cimarron for nearly 100 miles then bore southwesterly nearly 200 miles to Las Vegas. That was the first settlement since leaving Council Grove. Thence still southwesterly about 70 miles over the Glorietta Mountains into Santa Fe.

## CHAPTER VIII

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### MARKING THE SANTA FE TRAIL

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DAUGHTERS OF AMERICAN REVOLUTION START MOVEMENT—MRS. JOHN VAN BRUNT AND MISS ELIZABETH GENTRY, COMMITTEE—ASSISTED BY THE AUTHOR—INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL ACTS—MEETING OF OLD PLAINSMEN CALLED—MEMBERS—SANTA FE TRAIL MARKERS IN JACKSON COUNTY—“THE SANTA FE TRAIL” BY ED BLAIR.

In the year 1909 the Daughters of the American Revolution conceived the idea of relocating and marking the route of the original Santa Fe trail from Franklin in Howard County through the states of Missouri, Kansas, Colorado and New Mexico to Santa Fe. In a great many places it had been fenced up and changed by the land owners, so that the original route was fast losing its identity. Fortunately the route through Jackson County had been noted on the plats made by the government surveyors when the land was surveyed. A copy of those old plats are now in the county surveyors office at Independence. They appointed a committee, composed of Mrs. John Van Brunt and Miss Elizabeth Gentry, of Kansas City, whose duty it was to hunt up the exact route through the state of Missouri.

The ladies knew that Col. R. T. Van Horn of Kansas City, an old time newspaper man would be apt to know of some one who might be able to tell them the exact location of the old trail. One day I was sitting in a store in Independence, when an auto stopped in front, a gentleman got out and came into the store and inquired if there was a man in there by the name of Hickman. On being answered in the affirmative he said, “There are a couple of ladies out there who wish to see you.” I walked out and was introduced to Mrs. Van Brunt and Miss Gentry. They asked

me if I knew where the old Santa Fe trail ran through Jackson County. I replied that I thought I knew every foot of it. "You are the very man that we are hunting," they replied. "Col. Van Horn sent us to you and said if you did not know he had no one else to refer us to." They invited me to go with them to Sibley and show them that part of the old route. I did so and assured them that I was ready at all times to assist them.

Afterward they appeared before the city council of Independence and asked them their assistance in working up a sentiment in favor of the project. In order to get as many persons interested as possible a meeting of the old plainsmen was called at the Independence Fair Grounds on Friday, Sept. 3, 1909. The members of the fair board generously furnished a large tent and seats for their use at the meeting. When the day came, the tent was soon crowded to its capacity. When they met it was a sight worth seeing. Many old friends met that had not seen each other for years; in many cases each thought the other dead.

The following is a record of that meeting:

*Minutes of First Meeting of Plainsmen's Association,  
Independence, Mo.*

*Sept. 3, 1919.*

Pursuant to a call of Wm. Z. Hickman those persons whose names are before set forth assembled at the fair grounds of the Independence Fair Association, at ten o'clock A. M., Sept. 3, 1909, for the purpose of organization. The purpose of the meeting as explained by Wm. Z. Hickman, was to form an association of those who followed the plains prior to the last year of the Civil War and the "plains", he explained, meant the great country west of the Missouri River, likewise west of the Missouri state line, over which trade was carried on by means of pack animals and wagons drawn by mules and oxen.

On motion it was declared that all of those who traveled over the plains, whether immigrants, travelers, traders, trappers, whether employed or employers, and soldiers, should be eligible to membership. It was also on motion declared that the sons and daughters of the above named and sons and daughters of pioneers of Missouri and Kansas should likewise be eligible to membership.

On motion it was declared that all desiring to become members should sign a roll giving their places of birth, ages and the years during which they were upon the plains. And, it was further declared on motion that those claiming as sons and daughters should give the names of those under whom they claim.





EARLY DAYS ON THE OLD SANTA FE TRAIL.



On motion, Milton Moore was elected president, James W. Renick, vice-president; Mrs. O. H. Gentry and Mrs. Nannie Wallace, recording secretaries, and Wm. Z. Hickman, corresponding secretary.

On motion, it was provided that all officers should hold for term of one year and until their successors be elected and qualified.

On motion, it was provided that there should be no dues charged or collected.

On motion, each member was asked to contribute papers or sketches of their own experience on the great plains and upon the lives of those who are not living, which papers are to be preserved by the corresponding secretary to the end that those who opened the way of western commerce and civilization may not be forgotten.

On motion, it was agreed that the annual meeting of the association shall be held on Friday of the Independence fair of each year in conjunction with a meeting of the early settlers of Jackson County, Missouri. The meeting was addressed by D. C. Allen and Milton Moore.

On motion, the meeting adjourned to be re-assembled at the Independence fair, on Sept. 2, 1910.

The following is a list of those present, giving names, ages, when they first crossed the plains and their postoffice addresses:

J. M. Ratcliff, 79 years, A. D. 1849-62, Little Blue, Mo.  
Daniel Geary, 75 years, A. D. 1859, Kansas City, Mo.  
Solomon Reed, 72 years, A. D. 1857, Independence, Mo.  
John R. Kerr, 75 years, A. D. 1862-5, Independence, Mo.  
Oliver Perry Baxter, 74 years, A. D. 1854, Independence, Mo.  
James W. Renick, 68 years, A. D. 1860-6, Independence, Mo.  
E. R. Lee, 68 years, A. D. 1857, Independence, Mo.  
E. W. Strode, 66 years, 1867-8, Independence, Mo.  
John H. Deister, 76 years, 1854-68, Piper, Kan.  
E. J. Worthington, 68 years, 1862-4-5, Lees Summit, Mo.  
James D. Aid, 67 years, 1862-3, Independence, Mo.  
John S. Story, 83 years, 1846, Liberty, Mo.  
J. W. McMillian, 73 years, 1851, Denison, Tex.  
T. W. Gentry, 70 years, 1866, Independence, Mo.  
J. W. Alley, 70 years, 1856, Lamar, Mo.  
James M. Moore, 72 years, 1858, Lees Summit, Mo.  
F. M. Alley, 71 years, 1856, Lees Summit, Mo.  
Jos. Attor, 79 years, 1851, Bloomington, Ill.  
Morgan DeLacy, 84 years, 1846, Armordale, Kan.



P. P. Parker, 69 years, 1862-5, Independence, Mo.  
S. Akers, 77 years, 1849-50-52, Sibley, Mo.  
C. A. Harra, 67 years, A. D. 1862, Buckner, Mo.  
Thos. Kincaid, 67 years, 1863, Independence, Mo.  
Thos. Dyke, 67 years, 1862, Kerney, Mo.  
L. D. Smith, 77 years, 1857-8-9-60, Kansas City, Mo.  
W. H. Gott, 66 years, 1852, Kansas City, Mo.  
T. J. Rogers, 65 years, 1864, Lees Summit, Mo.  
L. J. Beers, 59 years, 1869, Kansas City, Mo.  
Elvi Potts, 81 years, 1848, Grain Valley, Mo.  
Dr. Lee C. Miller, 81 years, 1852, Knob Knoster, Mo.  
G. W. Scott, 73 years, 1856, Belton, Mo.  
T. W. Mitcher, 73 years, 1850, Olathe, Kan.  
G. Philbert, 71 years, 1856, Wyandotte, Kan.  
R. W. Adams, 67 years, 1862, Independence, Mo.  
J. A. Moore, 73 years, 1865, Independence, Mo.  
Jas. Bowling, 90 years, 1846, Buckner, Mo.  
Miss Jate Pliser, 67 years, 1853, Texhoma, Okla.  
Pat Costello, 62 years, 1867, Buckner, Mo.  
J. R. Wilson, 80 years, 1851, Blue Springs, Mo.  
J. R. Hudson, 76 years, 1852, Oak Grove, Mo.  
J. J. O'Brien, Sr., 67 years, 1863, Independence, Mo.  
H. C. Harper, 73 years, 1856, Kansas City, Mo.  
J. K. Burrus, 69 years, 1854, Mt. Washington.  
Jas. Carter, 72 years, 1846, Kansas City, Mo.  
J. S. Wallace, 59 years, 1868, Kansas City, Mo.  
A. R. Campbell, 62 years, 1863, R. R. 5, Independence, Mo.  
J. M. Crowder, 64 years, 1863, Valley Falls, Kan.  
Rufus Wilson, 73 years, 1862, Independence, Mo.  
W. C. Christopher, 69 years, 1862, Harrisonville, Mo.  
Chris Johnson, 69 years, 1857, Glendon, Mo.  
J. W. Mayhan, 67 years, 1861, Wellington, Mo.  
Green Hulse, 63 years, 1863, Oak Grove, Mo.  
Dr. D. A. Bryant, 81 years, 1864, Hickman Mills.  
E. W. McIlhany, 81 years, 1849, Kansas City, Mo., 8011 E. Eighth St.  
I. N. Montgomery, 75 years, 1851, Blue Springs, Mo.  
D. Stewart, 71 years, 1863, Courtney.  
J. A. Coleman, 70 years, 1851-56, Bates City, Mo.  
A. B. Hayes, 62 years, 1862-3-4-5-6, Lemoore, Cal.

Morgan Boone, 58 years, 1868, Kansas City, Mo.  
N. Ainsworth, 75 years, 1860, Lone Elm, Kan.  
W. D. Land, 73 years, 1856, Independence, Mo.  
J. M. Short, 68 years, 1860-4, Lees Summit, Mo.  
Milton Moore, 63 years, 1864-5, Kansas City, Mo.  
Newton Vaughan, 64 years, 1860-65, Martin City, Mo.  
H. C. Barger, 61 years, 1864, Edwardsville, Kan.  
W. H. Deister, 68 years, 1861-5, Parkville, Mo.  
Geo. P. Prewitt, 72 years, 1855, Blue Springs.  
W. M. Johnson, 64 years, 1853, Rosedale, Kan.  
W. T. Hickman, 73 years, 1856, Kansas City, Mo.  
Oliver Case, 74 years, 1858, Kansas City, Mo.  
D. D. Mattney, 74 years, 1857-9, Argentine, Kan.  
Geo. W. Harrison, 69 years, 1856-65, Warrensburg, Mo.  
T. W. Green, 67 years, 1864-5, Raytown, Mo.  
Stubbins Watts, 71 years, 1861, Kansas City, Mo.  
Thos. H. Hunter, 75 years, 1857, Kansas City, Mo.  
R. C. Rice, 82 years, 1846, Liberty, Mo.  
Saml. B. Harris, 79 years, 1853, Greenwood, Mo.  
Napoleon Boone, 69 years, 1859, Westport, Mo.  
J. G. Vaughan, 70 years, 1860, Kingsville, Mo.  
Jas. Peacock, 85 years, 1846, Independence, Mo.  
R. S. Barnes, 83 years, 1847, Randolph, Mo.  
Thos. McNamara, 73 years, 1858, Kansas City, Mo.  
U. R. Holmes, 63 years, 1863, Hickman Mills.  
R. H. Dean, 80 years, 1858, Topeka, Kan.  
T. F. Maxwell, 68 years, 1859, Independence, Mo.  
Jas. Latimer, 71 years, 1863, Independence, Mo.  
Mrs. Nathan Lipscomb, 64 years, 1853, Martin City, Mo.  
J. T. Crump, 64 years, 1863, Independence, Mo.  
Geo. L. Compton, 78 years, 1855, Independence, Mo.  
Chas. Raber, 67 years, 1860, Kansas City, Mo.  
T. B. Webb, 74 years, 1860, Higginsville, Mo.  
J. H. Jones, 64 years, 1864, Buckner, Mo.  
P. A. Helm, 80 years, 1849, Paris, Mo.  
Jas. McMillan, 75 years, 1852, Independence, Mo.  
Mrs. P. C. Renick, 81 years, 1854, Kansas City, Mo.  
Jos. Baxter, 68 years, 1855, Independence, Mo.  
W. E. Cassell, 68 years, 1860, Kansas City, Mo.

Jerry Grindrod, 62 years, 1864, Kansas City, Kan.  
N. Hoaks, 54 years, 1855, Kansas City, Mo.  
W. K. Wolfe, 69 years, 1859, Leeds, Mo.  
D. P. Dyer, 70 years, 1865, Lake City, Mo.  
Wm. H. Chiles, 73 years, 1864, Independence, Mo.  
Nina Cogswell, 79 years, 1856, Independence, Mo.  
Luther C. Munro, 65 years, 1860, Independence, Mo.  
T. T. Fox, 74 years, 1860, Independence, Mo.  
Robt. P. Fann, 72 years, 1861, Belton, Mo.  
John P. Fann, 64 years, 1861, Independence, Mo.  
Jno. W. Moore, 68 years, 1860, Kansas City, Mo.  
G. C. Slusher, 72 years, 1855, Independence, Mo.  
Geo. Holmes, 75 years, 1852, Kansas City, Mo.  
Joel B. Patterson, 60 years, 1870, Oak Grove.  
J. T. Sale, 76 years, 1850, Independence, Mo.  
Isaac N. Rogers, 76 years, 1851, Independence, Mo.  
E. A. Moore, 64 years, 1865, Liberty, Mo.  
John A. Workman, 73 years, 1856, Independence, Mo.  
Edwin Walters, 60 years, 1858, Kansas City, Mo.  
W. Z. Hickman, 64 years, 1862, Independence, Mo.  
F. C. Warneke, 71 years, 1853, Kansas City, Mo.  
Mrs. M. V. Jewell, 67 years, 1863, Kansas City, Mo.  
Geo. A. E. Troutman, 64 years, 1863, Kansas City, Mo.  
John Brixey, 74 years, 1862, Independence, Mo.  
Mel Hulse, 65 years, 1863, Jefferson City, Mo.  
Jno. T. Tyer, 70 years, 1865, Lees Summit, Mo.  
L. A. Allen, 62 years, 1863, Kansas City, Mo.  
Danl. Boone, 63 years, 1864, Kansas City, Mo.  
Henry Holsworth, 79 years, 1855, Independence, Mo.

The oldest man at that meeting was Jas. Bowlin he being 90 years old. He was one of the five men present that went with Doniphan's expedition to Mexico in 1846 as a soldier. The others were Jas. Peacock, Jas. S. Storey, Morgan DeLacey and James Carter. A permanent organization was made and meetings held regularly until the breaking out of the World War. At each meeting fewer and fewer of the old fellows answered to their names at roll call. At the last meeting held in 1917, only 12 answered to the names. Since the first meeting nearly all have died.

The country which was called the "Great Plains" or "Great American



Desert" has been transformed into a land of fine farms and homes. Civilization has changed the appearance of all of it, and the man who passed over it 50 or 60 years ago, would be perfectly lost should he try to follow the old trail. When the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad was built the engineers built it almost on the identical route of the old Santa Fe Trail.

Some years ago I took a trip over the railroad from Kansas City to Santa Fe and in a great many places it was almost identical with the old trail, especially was this so from Trinidad to Santa Fe. Trinidad is situated on the north side of the Raton mountains, at the mouth of a big canyon. The head waters of the Purgatorie River comes out of that canyon, that was the only place that a wagon road could have ever been built across the Raton range. The wagon road crosses the stream 18 times from Trinidad to the summit and seven times from the summit to the plains on the south side. The road came out on the plains just where the town of Raton now stands.

The men at the meeting were men who had traveled that trail when it was dangerous. Some of them had been wagon masters, assistants and teamsters. There was never a collection of men that were more devoted to duty than those old plainsmen were—there was no task too arduous or dangerous for them to go through with, in the discharge of their duties. The teamsters obeyed the orders of the wagon masters with just as much promptness as regular soldiers of the army. No matter how cold or rainy, when a man's time came to go on duty he went, without question.

After the meeting the men took great interest in the undertaking of the ladies to put up markers along the old road. The ladies went before the Legislature and asked for an appropriation to buy the markers, and the members from the counties through which the old train ran took up the matter with a good will and pushed the bill through both houses of the Legislature and the Governor signed it. As soon as the law became operative the contract was let for the markers and work commenced upon them at once. When finished, they were speedily erected along the whole line, from New Santa Fe, Jackson County, to Franklin in Howard County. After all of them had been set, the ladies organized a party to go over the line and dedicate them, and in each place to select some responsible party who would pledge themselves to look after them and care for them when necessary.

Those stones in Jackson County are located as follows, commencing from the eastern line of the county: Livesy, Buckner, Six Mile Church, Salem Church, Court House yard in Independence, Aunt Sophia Kitchen on the Blue Ridge Boulevard, Cave Spring, Bryant Road, Red Bridge, and the state line of New Santa Fe. A marker was also located on the top of the river bluff at Old Fort Osage, from which point passengers on every steamboat that comes up the Missouri River can see it for miles before getting to it. It stands there as a lone silent sentinel on the identical spot that Captain Meriwether Lewis selected in the year 1805, on his exploring expedition to the Pacific ocean, for a trading post and fort, that was located by the government in 1808.

When the dedicating party reached Franklin it looked as if half of the population of Howard County was there. They had prepared a magnificent dinner and invited every one to partake of their hospitality. Governor E. W. Major was present and made a speech of welcome.

THE SANTA FE TRAIL.  
(Written by Ed Blair.)

Years ago—'Twas a prairie then  
And the deer roamed wild and free;  
Years ago—I see it again  
As it appeared to me.  
The old trail ran where the barn stands now,  
The trail was here long before the plow,  
And we drove ox teams with sometimes a cow,  
In the days that use to be.

Years ago—Yes, I lived here then  
And a lively place 'twas too.  
Wagons for miles with their fearless men  
Coming and passing from view.  
On the wagon covers "Pike's Peak or Bust!"  
Yes, the fever was high for the yellow dust  
Just a lot of grit and then their luck to trust,  
For those that won were few.

Years ago—'Twas a camping ground  
Where the trees now cast their shade,  
And the faithful oxen rambled around  
And rarely if ever strayed,

And the camp fires burned each night of the year  
In the pastures there and the cornfields here,  
Yes, I slept each night with never a fear,  
And many the friends I made.

Yes, years ago—What a striking change  
From the way we do things now,  
No less these farms from the boundless range  
Or the way we sow and plow  
The sickle is gone and the binder's here,  
But the sickle still to my heart is dear,  
But I look in vain for the roving deer  
And the prairie chicken now.

Years ago—Ah, I love to know  
That the old trail shall remain,  
That the markers tell in the years to go  
Where the ox teams crossed the plain  
Of the men who traveled the toilsome way  
But few are left to tell it today,  
But their march was Progress on its way,  
And its glory ne'er shall wane.



## CHAPTER IX

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### FIRST COUNTY BUILDINGS

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SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS APPOINTED—TEMPORARY COURT HOUSE BUILT—COST—BUILDING OF PERMANENT COURT HOUSE AND JAIL—SPECIFICATIONS OF COURT HOUSE, JAIL.

In the November term, 1827, the following order was made by the court: Ordered that the court do now proceed to the appointment of a superintendent of the public buildings of the county. Whereupon the court appointed Lilburn W. Boggs, superintendent of the public buildings and he was duly sworn according to law.

On motion of the president, that there be a temporary court house built in the town of Independence, it was ordered that the superintendent of the public buildings be directed to cause same to be erected on the northwest corner of Lot 59 in the town of Independence, a hewed log house, 36 feet in the clear in length by 18 feet in the clear in the width with a partition of hewed logs so as to leave the large room 22 feet by 18 and the small 18 x 14 one good story high, say nine feet between the joists and floor, roof to be of rafters and three feet boards, with a brick chimney, built so as to have a fire place in each room, with a rock foundation, with good puncheon floor below and a loft covered with plank and a sufficient number of hewed joists to each room. The foundation of the house to be laid on strong pillars, with a sufficient number of doors and windows, say one door to the large room and one through the partition, cracks chinked with seasoned short chinking and pointed outside and inside with lime mortar, with two twelve light windows in the large room and one in the small room.

The door shutters to be what is commonly called batton doors of wal-

nut plank, well seasoned, planed and neatly and strongly made. The door casings and window casings all to be of well seasoned walnut plank and window shutters to each window, and the superintendent is authorized to supply any deficiency in the plan so as to make the building complete and fit for use, and make any alteration that will tend to lessen the expense to the county, and it is further ordered that the sum of \$175.00 be appropriated to pay for the said building out of any money in the treasury arising from the sale of the lots in Independence.

At the same term of court we find the following:

To the County of Jackson, Dr. to James R. Moore.

For four days' services rendered the county in 1826 in taking the census, at \$1.00 per day, \$5.00.

Ordered that the above account be allowed and paid out of any money in the treasury appropriated to the county expenditures.

The people in those days must have been a great deal more prompt in paying their taxes, than those of us now living here, witness the following statement made by the collector for the year 1827.

The collector presented to the court the following, being the delinquent list of this county for the present year, to-wit:

	State tax	County tax	Total
Willis Crump -----	\$0.62½	.62½	\$1.25
Andrew Godak -----	.60	.60	1.20
Isaac Hitchcock -----	.53	.53	1.06
Joseph M. Kinron-----	.56¼	.56¼	1.12½
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$2.31¾	\$2.31¾	\$4.63½

Given under my hand this 5th day of Nov., 1827.

JNO. R. SWARINGEN, Co. Collector.

The collector this day came forward and made a settlement with the court for all monies accruing to the county and him collected and presented the following account.

The County of Jackson Dr. to John R. Swearingen, Collector, 1827:  
Nov. 5, To amount of delinquent list this day allowed by the

Court for county taxes ----- \$ 2.31¾

Nov. 5, To cost and county warrant this day paid into the county

treasury ----- 184.30¼

To eight per centum for the collection of county taxes

on \$200.23 ----- 16.02

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\$202.64

By amount of county tax list for the year-----\$202.64  
February Term, 1828.

The court met pursuant to agreement, all the justices present.

The superintendent of the public buildings made the following report, which was read and ordered to be entered and the accompanying papers filed and No. 8 entered.

To the Honorable, the Justice of the Public Buildings for the County of Jackson, report that in pursuance of an order of said court on 3rd Sept., 1827, advertisements were published for receiving proposals, for building a temporary court house in the town of Independence, on the northwest corner of Lot No. 59, in said town. Agreeably to the said advertisement, proposals were received until the 18th day of September last, on which day they were opened.

The accompanying document No. 8 will show what the proposals were and whose proposition was accepted. The several proposals are retained and are enclosed in the said document No. 8 for reference. The court will discover by the said papers that Sam'l P. Lewis became the undertaker to build the said house for the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars.

The work has progressed with as much expedition as the season would admit. The superintendent has the satisfaction to state that the work as far as it has progressed has been executed in a workmanlike manner, the balance of the work will be completed as soon as the weather will permit. In pursuance of a subsequent order of court the sum of forty dollars being the first payment for said building has been drawn from the county treasury and paid to the order of the undertaker. The advertisement with the bond annexed and likewise presented to the court for their inspection together with all the papers relating to the said building, in order that the court may make such disposition of them as they may think proper.

Respectfully,

L. W. BOGGS,  
Supt. of Public Buildings.

Jackson County, Feb. 4, 1828.

Document No. 8.

The following are the proposals for building a temporary court house in the town of Independence, in the County of Jackson, in pursuance of an order of the county court made at the special term, on 3rd Sept. 1827.



No. 1, James Sheppard -----	\$180.00
No. 2, John Smith -----	190.00
No. 3, S. V. Noland -----	179.00
No. 4, Archibald McCorkle -----	170.00
No. 5, Harmon Gregg -----	190.00
No. 6, James Lewis -----	175.00
No. 7, Daniel P. Lewis -----	150.00

Daniel P. Lewis being the lowest proposed and his security accepted the contract for the said building was made with him, whereupon the said Lewis entered into bond and security as required by law.

Sept. 15, 1827.

L. W. BOGGS,

Superintendent of Public Bldgs.

From the record it appears that grand jurors did not have much work to do to investigate all the acts of lawlessness taking place in Jackson County, as will appear from the following account presented for work done by the sheriff in the while in the discharge of his duty.

The County of Jackson, to Jos. R. Walker, sheriff Dr.

March Term, 1827—

Summoning grand jury -----	\$ 5.00
Calling same -----	.50
One day's attendance -----	1.50

July Term—

Summoning grand jury -----	5.00
Three days' attendance -----	4.50

November Term—

Summoning grand jury -----	5.00
Calling same -----	.50
2 days' services -----	3.00

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Total ----- \$25.00

Approved and ordered paid.

The superintendent of the public buildings of the county presents to the court the following plan of the permanent court house and jail for the county, together with the probable cost of erecting the same, to-wit: To the Honorable, the County Court of Jackson County.

The superintendent of the public buildings of said county has the honor known to lay before the Honorable, the County Court, the following plan, and estimate of the probable expense of erecting the court house and jail for said county, to-wit:

The court house to be of brick on a stone foundation, two stories high, the lower story 12 feet in heighth above the stone foundation and the upper story 10 feet in heighth, the building to be 40 feet in length by 30 in width. The walls of the lower story to be two brick thick or 13 inches, the gable ends to be one brick thick. Two double chimneys in the east end of the building with fire places above and below. Two single chimneys in the west end of the building, one fire place below in each, the chimney jambs to be 18 inches thick and seven feet in width, the chimneys to extend the usual heighth above the comb of the roof, the flues to be separate to the top, the lower fire places to be large enough to admit a four foot stick and the upper fire places large enough to admit a four foot stick of wood.

Spaces are to be left in the walls for 12-24 light windows in the lower story of 10 x 12 glass, and the same number in the upper story of 18 light windows of 10 by 12 glass and for two large folding doors in the lower story in each front of the building in the center.

The stone foundation wall to be let in the ground 18 inches and to extend 18 inches above the surface of the ground and two feet thick, the part which extends above the surface must be neatly faced on the outside and pointed with lime mortar.

Roof of building to be of rafters 20 feet long, four inches by five, and covered with sheeting plank and good oak or walnut shingles. The rafters to be supported by sufficient studding of scantling, four inches by five. Two hewed sills, 12 inches by nine, and 40 feet long, to extend across the building from east to west and 15 feet apart, each end of the said sills to rest on the stone foundation and supported at intervals of 10 feet by stone pillars. The sleepers are to be of oak logs with one side hewed to rest on the stone foundation at one end and on the sills at the other and two feet apart from center to center of each sleeper. The sill and sleepers are to be so put in that when the floor is laid it will not extend onto the thickness of the plank above the stone foundation. The lower floor to be neatly laid, of good one and a quarter inch oak or walnut, plank planed and dressed and tongued and grooved and points broke. Two plates each 40 feet long by 12 inches by nine to extend across the building from the east to west on the first story parallel with the lower sills to rest on the brick wall at each end and supported at intervals of 10 feet by turned pillars of wood, the pillars to square one foot and to be 13 feet long and made into the sills below and the plates above, it will require six of those turned pillars, a space is to be left between the before

mentioned plates on the first story when there is to be no joice put which space will extend from the center of the building to the west end of the same. The joice for the first story are to be of scantling nine inches by three. The joice for the upper story are to be of scantling nine inches by four and 32 feet long, to extend across the top of the building from north to south and to project over the brick wall one foot at each end for the foot of the rafters to rest on the eaves of the roof to be boxed and plain cornice to be put on and barge boards put along the gable ends. All the doors and the windows to be neatly cased and faced inside and out with single "archetrive" the facing to be at least six inches wide sash and glass neatly put in a translight of sash and glass over each of the front doors. A plank partition to extend across the lower room from north to south commencing at 12 feet along the east end of the room and a counter partition 12 feet in length so as to divide said room into two equal parts for jury room with door through the main partition leading into each room with good baton door shutters to each.

The jail is to be built of square hewn timber to square one foot the building to be 20 feet square on the outside and 16 feet high above the top of the stone foundation, so as to form two stories each seven feet in clear or thereabout, the walls of the upper story to be single and the walls of the lower story or dungeon to be double, with a space of one foot left between the outside of the inner wall and the inside of the outer wall, which space is to be filled up with square bolts of split timber, round pealed, poles, placed upright or with loose rock beat into small pieces. The foundation wall to be of stone three feet thick and let in the earth two feet and to extend above the surface six inches, the part which extends above the surface to be faced and pointed with lime mortar on the outside, the logs for the outside wall to be 20 feet in length and the logs for the inner wall to be 16 feet in length, the lower, middle and upper floors to be laid of square hewed timber the same as used for the body of the building. All the floors to be rabbitted into the outside wall on the inside of the same, so as not to show on the outside. The middle floor to be covered with strong oak plank jointed and well nailed down, a trap door to be left in the center of the middle floor and shutter made strong with necessary fastening. The roof to be of rafters and covered with lathing and good oak or walnut shingles, the gable ends studded and weather boarded, and large boards along the gable ends. One window in the lower room and two in the upper room, the windows to be one foot in heighth and 18 inches in length well secured by strong iron bars



or grates. One door in the upper story with two strong door shutters. One to open on the inside and one on the outside of the building and having good strong iron hinges. A pair of coarse rough steps and platform on the outside to lead up to the upper room. The building to be raised with a half dovetail and notched down close, so that there will be no cracks between the logs. All the work to be done in a strong and workmanlike manner.

Estimate of the probable cost of building court house	__\$1,500.00
Do. of the jail	----- 400.00

Total	----- \$1,900.00
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It is therefore ordered by the court that the superintendent be directed to issue advertisement for receiving proposals to erect the before mentioned buildings, and that the following sums be and are hereby appropriated for that purpose, to-wit:

Out of any moneys in the County Treasury arising from the sale of lots in the town of Independence	----- \$1,020.00
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All the town property belonging to the county including the present temporary court house and lot 1, with the exception of such lots as are reserved for public uses, the whole valued at	----- 880.00
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Total	----- \$1,900.00
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And it is further ordered that the superintendent be authorized to make any alterations in the plans of said buildings that will tend to the interest of the county and to lessen the expense which he may deem advisable. And that the clerk furnish the superintendent with a copy of the foregoing order.

The court adjourned to the first Monday in May next.

ABRAHAM MCCLELLAN.

## CHAPTER X

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### EARLY RECORDS

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FIRST INSTRUMENT RECORDED—FIRST RECORD OF MARRIAGES—FIRST WARRANTY DEED—ANOTHER WARRANTY DEED—EARLY LAND ENTRIES—FIRST ROAD RECORDS—FIRST FERRY—FIRST SALE OF LOTS—WHERE SOME OF THESE LOTS ARE—EXPENSE OF SALE OF LOTS.

The first instrument recorded in Jackson County is rather a remarkable one and deserves special mention. It was concerning a certain patent obtained by Anthony Bencine, of Greensboro, N. C., who, for \$500, sold the right for the counties of Lafayette, Ray, Clay and Jackson Counties to R. and L. McCaskrie. It states that it is for the improvement of grist mills, specifying that by certain arrangements of burrs, spindles, etc., perfect accuracy in grinding can be had in such a manner as has never before been attained or used in the United States. These letters patent were issued to A. Bencine by John Quincy Adams, President, Henry Clay, Secretary of State, and certified to by Wm. Wirt, Attorney-General of the United States. The witnesses of the signature of A. Bencine, were T. Early Strange and Peter Adams, of North Carolina.

These documents are so exceedingly interesting that a careful perusal of them will afford the reader much pleasure. A simple description of them is not sufficient, we therefore insert them: Letters patent. The United States of America. To all to whom these letters patent shall come: WHEREAS, Anthony Bencine, a citizen of the United States, hath alleged that he has invented a new and useful improvement in grist mills, which improvement, he states, has not been known or used before his application; hath oath that he doth verily believe that he is the true inventor or discoverer of the said improvement; hath paid into the trea-

sury of the United States the sum of thirty dollars, delivered a receipt for the same, and presented a petition to the Secretary of State, signifying a desire of obtaining an exclusive property in said improvement, and praying that a patent may be granted for that purpose. These are, therefore, to grant, according to law, to this said Anthony Bencine, his heirs, administrators or assigns, for the term of fourteen years from the sixteenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, the full and exclusive right and liberty of making, constructing, using and vending to others to be used the said improvement, a description whereof is given in the words of the said Anthony Bencine himself, in the schedule thereunto annexed, and is made a part of these presents.

In testimony whereof I have caused these letters to be made patent and the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at the city of Washington this sixteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, and in the Independence of the United States of America the fifty-first. By the President, J. Q. Adams. H. Clay, Secretary of State.

City of Washington, to-wit: I do hereby certify that the foregoing letters patent were delivered to me on the sixteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, to be examined; that I have examined the same and find them conformable to law, and I do hereby return the same to the Secretary of State within fifteen days from the date aforesaid, to-wit, on this sixteenth day of January, in the year aforesaid. Wm. Wirt, Attorney-General of the United States.

#### FIRST RECORD OF MARRIAGES.

Cupid, who is everywhere busy, was at work here in the hearts of the youthful immigrants, and as no officiating priest could be had, the aid of the Justice was invoked. Records followed as a legal necessity, and the first marriage notice we have on the books, is that of David G. Butterfield and Nancy Grayham, Feb. 26, 1827. Herewith we insert a verbatim copy of a few of the earlier marriages.

"State of Missouri, Jackson County. This is to certify, that on the fifteenth of February, I celebrated the *writes* of matrimony between Francis Prine and Eliza Daily, and joined them together as husband and wife, according to law. Given under my hand this 18th day of May, 1827. Joel P. Walker, J. Peace. The above certificate was received and recorded on the 27th of July, 1827. Sam'l C. Owens, Clerk, Circuit Court, Ex-Officio Recorder."





THE HUDSPETH HOUNDS ON A FOX HUNT.



VIEW OF THE VALLEY OF THE BLUE.



"State of Missouri, Jackson County. This is to certify, that on the 15th day of February last, I celebrated the rites of matrimony between Silas Hitchcock and Margaret Patterson, and joined them together as husband and wife, according to law. Given under my hand and seal this 18th day of May, 1827. Joel P. Walker, J. P. The above certificate was received in my office on the 27th day of July, 1827, and recorded on the same day. Sam. C. Owens, C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County, Mo."

"State of Missouri, County of Jackson. This is to certify, that on the 26th day of February I celebrated the *writes* of matrimony between David G. Butterfield and Nancy Grayham, and joined them together as husband and wife, according to law. Given under my hand this 18th day of May, 1827. Joel P. Walker. The above certificate was recorded in my office on the 27th day of July, 1827, and recorded on same day. Sam. C. Owens, C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County. I do hereby certify, that I married David Reed and Timmy Brock in the holy matrimony on the ninth day of April. Given under my hand this twenty-first day of April, 1827. Recorded 7th of July, 1827, recorded on same day. Sam'l C. Owens, Clerk and Ex-Officio Recorder of Jackson County, Mo."

"State of Missouri, County of Jackson, Township of Blue, to-wit: I do hereby certify, that I joined together William Butler and Margaret Warden, in the holy estate of Matrimony, on the first day of April last, this the 28th day of June, 1827. Lewis Jones, J. P. Recorded on the 7th day of July, 1827; received on same day. Sam C. Owens, Clerk, and Ex-Officio Recorder of Jackson County."

"Jackson County, State of Missouri. This is to certify, that I, Caleb Weeden, a regularly authorized preacher of the Gospel, did on the 17th day of April, 1827, legally solemnized the rite of matrimony between Mr. James Chambers and Miss Margaret Johnson, of the county and State above mentioned. Given under my hand this 18th day of April, 1827. Caleb Weeden. The above certificate was received in my office on the 27th day of July, 1827, and recorded on the same day. Sam. C. Owens, C. C., and Ex-Officio Recorder of Jackson County."

"State of Missouri, Jackson County. This is to certify that on the 27th day of May, 1827, I Celebrated the *writes* of matrimony between Hynam Shears and Eliza Creek, and joined them together as husband and wife, according to law. Given under my hand this 22d day of August,



1827. Abr'm McClellan. The above certificate was received in my office on the 24th day of August, 1827, and recorded on the same day. Sam'l C. Owens, Ex-Officio Recorder."

"State of Missouri, County of Jackson, Township of Blue, to-wit: I do hereby certify that I joined together in holy state of matrimony Mr. William Warden and Mahulda Butler on the 27th of this instant, this the 28th day of June, 1827. Lewis Jones, J. P. Recorded on the 7th of July, 1827; received on the same day. Samuel C. Owens, Clerk, and Ex-Officio Recorder of Jackson County, Mo."

"State of Missouri, County of Jackson. I, William I. Baugh, a justice of the peace within and for said county, do certify that on the 17th day of August, A. D. 1827, I joined together as husband and wife, Moses Belcher and Eliza Richy. Given under my hand this 3d day of November, 1827. Wm. I. Baugh, J. P. The above certificate was received in my office on the 3d day of November, 1827, and recorded same day. Samuel C. Owens, Clerk and Ex-Officio Recorder."

"State of Missouri, Jackson County. I, Lewis Jones, a justice of the peace within and for said county, do certify that I joined together Mr. James Lewis and Miss Margaret Gregg, both of this county, on the 6th day of this instant, this 20th day of November, 1827. Lewis Jones, J. P. The above certificate was received in my office on the 20th day of November, 1827, and recorded on same day. Samuel C. Owens, C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County."

"Jackson County, State of Missouri. I do certify that I joined together in bonds of matrimony Jonathan Cameron and Phoebe Connor, September 27th, 1827. Joel P. Walker, J. P. The above certificate was received in my office on the 27th of March, 1828, and recorded same day. Samuel C. Owens, C. C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County, Mo."

"December the 29th day, 1827. To the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Jackson County: This is to certify that I solemnized the rites of matrimony between Charles Johnston and Kisiah Trapp according to Law, on the 18th of October, 1827. Zachariah Linville, Elder of the Christian Church. The above certificate was received in my office on the 31st day of December, 1827, and recorded on the same day: Samuel C. Owens, C. C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County."

"State of Missouri, Jackson County. I, William I. Baugh, a justice of the peace for Fort Osage township in said county, do certify that on the 18th of October, 1827, I joined together as man and wife Levi Russell

and Nancy Bledsoe in the holy bands of matrimony. Given under my hand this 18 January, 1828. W. I. Baugh, J. P. The above certificate was received in my office on the 18th of January, 1828 and recorded same day. Samuel C. Owens, C. C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County."

"State of Missouri, Jackson County. I, Lewis Jones, a Justice of the Peace within and for said county do certify that I joined together Mr. James Lewis and Miss Mary Gregg both of this county, on the 6th day of this instant, this 20th day of November, 1827. Lewis Jones, J. P. The above certificate was received in my office on the 20th day of November, 1827, and recorded on the same day. Samuel C. Owens, C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County."

"State of Missouri, Jackson County. I, Lewis Jones, a justice of the peace within and for said county, do hereby certify that I joined together in the holy state of matrimony on the 18th day of this instant, Mr. John Smith and Miss Sarah Fristo, both of this county, this 20th day of November, 1827. Lewis Jones, J. P. The above certificate was received in my office on the 20th day of November, 1827, and recorded on the same day. Samuel C. Owens, C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County."

"State of Missouri, County of Jackson, Fort Osage Township. I, Jesse Lewis, a justice of the peace within and for the county aforesaid, do certify that on the 22d day of December, 1827, I united Jonathan Smith and Elizaan Dier, in the holy estate of matrimony according to law. Given under my hand this 15th day of February, 1828. Jesse Lewis, J. P. The above certificate was received in my office on the 17th of March, 1828, and recorded same day. S. C. Owens, C. C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder, Jackson County."

"Jackson County, State of Missouri. This is to certify that I joined together in the bands of matrimony Daniel Prine and Catharine Bryant, December 11th, 1827. Joel P. Walker, J. P. The above certificate was filed in my office on the 27th of March, A. D. 1828, and recorded same day. Samuel C. Owens, C. C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County."

"State of Missouri, Jackson County, Blue Township, to-wit: I, Lewis Jones, a Justice of the Peace, within and for the county aforesaid, do certify that on the 27th day of December, 1827, I united Joseph Keeny and Winny Chesney in the holy state of matrimony. Given under my hand this, the 1st day of March, 1828. Lewis Jones, J. P. The above



certificate was received in my office on the 17th of March, 1828, and recorded same day. Samuel C. Owens, C. C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County."

"State of Missouri, County of Jackson, Blue Township, to-wit: I, Lewis Jones, a Justice of the Peace, in and for the county aforesaid, do certify that on the third day of January, 1828, I united Thomas Pitcher and Nancy Parish in the holy estate of matrimony. Given under my hand this first day of March, 1828. Lewis Jones, J. P. The above certificate was received in my office on the 17th of March, 1828, and recorded the same day. Samuel C. Owens, C. C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County."

"I do hereby *asertify* that I, William Silvers, a *justes* of the peace, did, on the 14th day of January, 1828, marry Thomas Milsaps and Matilda Chesney in the holy matrimony. Given under my hand this tenth day of April. William Silvers, 1828. The above certificate was filed in my office on the 12th of April, 1828, and recorded same day. Samuel C. Owens, C. C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County."

"State of Missouri, County of Jackson, to-wit: Blue Township. I, Lewis Jones, a justice of the peace, within and for the county aforesaid, do certify that on the 30th of January, 1828, I united Joseph Brown and Nancy King in the holy estate of matrimony. Given under my hand this 1st day of March, 1828. Lewis Jones, J. P. The above certificate was received in my office on the 17th of March, 1828, and recorded same day. Samuel C. Owens, C. C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County."

"State of Missouri, County of Jackson, Fort Osage Township. I, Jesse Lewis, a Justice of the Peace, within and for the county aforesaid, do certify that on the 8th day of February, I united in the holy estate of matrimony James Linch and Mary Smith, according to law. Given under my hand this, the first day of May, 1828. Jesse Lewis, J. P. The above certificate was filed in my office on the first day of May, 1828, and recorded same day. Samuel C. Owens, Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County, Mo."

"I do hereby certify that I, William Silvers, a justice of the peace, for the County of Jackson, did, on the 14th day of February, 1828, marry Mirich Davis and Sary Anderson, in the holy matrimony. Given under my hand this, the 10th day of April. William Silvers, 1828. The above certificate was filed in my office on the 12th day of April, 1828, and recorded same day. Samuel C. Owens, C. C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County."



"Jackson County, Missouri. This is to certify that I joined in the bands of matrimony the persons under named, Jacob Gregg and Nancy Lewis, on March 4, 1828. Joe P. Walker, J. P. The above certificate was filed in my office this 27th day of March, A. D. 1828, and recorded same day. Samuel C. Owens, C. C. C. and Ex-Officio Recorder for Jackson County."

"This is to certify that I joined together in the bands of matrimony Reuben Collins and Hannah Crisp, March 11, 1828. Joel Walker, J. P."

"I Lewis Jones, a Justice of the Peace within and for the County of Jackson, do certify that on the 20th day of March, 1828, I united John Gibson and Sarah Noland in the holy estate of matrimony. Lewis Jones, J. P."

"I, William Silvers, a justice of the peace, within the county aforesaid, do certify that on the 25th day of May, 1828, I joined together as man and wife Hugh Parsons and Nancy Smith in the holy estate of matrimony. Given under my hand this day and date aforesaid. William Silvers, J. P."

"I, Lewis Jones, a Justice of the Peace within and for the county aforesaid, do certify that on the 23d day of March, 1828, I united James Townson and Hannah Smith in the holy bands of matrimony. Lewis Jones, J. P."

"I, William Silvers, Justice of the Peace within and for the county aforesaid, certify that on the 11th day of June, 1828, I joined together as man and wife Edly Carnet and Elizabeth Davis in the holy estate of matrimony. William Silvers, J. P."

"This is to certify that I joined together in the bands of matrimony Bryant Baxter and Sarah Ross, on the 8th day of July, 1828. Joel Walker, J. P."

"This is to certify that I joined together in the bands of matrimony Jeremiah Burnes and Sarah Baxter, on the 3d day of July, 1828. Joel P. Walker, J. P."

"I, Lewis Jones, a Justice of the Peace within and for said county, do certify that on the 10th day of July last, I united Mr. Breeton Savage and Mrs. Rachel Linch in the holy estate of matrimony. Lewis Jones, J. P."

"I, Lewis Jones, a justice of the peace within and for said county, do certify that on the 19th day of August last, I united Absolom Smith and Hilly Kinzly in the holy estate of matrimony. Lewis Jones, J. P."

"I, William Silver, a justice of the peace for Jackson County, did on

the 24th of August, 1828, join together as man and wife Benjamin Tucker and Clarissa Noland. William Silvers, J. P."

"I do hereby certify that Pierre Reualette was married to Mrs. L. Roi, both of the one said county, and that they were married in the presence of several witnesses by the undersigned Justice of the Peace on the tenth day of September last. Given under my hand and seal the 8th of October, 1828. Samuel Johnston, J. P."

"I, Lewis Jones, a Justice of the Peace within and for said county, do certify that on the 25th day of December, 1828, I united in the holy estate of matrimony Mr. Heseiah Warden and Miss Sarah Butler, by the consent of each of their parents. Lewis Jones, J. P."

"Married by the undersigned justice of the peace on the 25th day of December, 1828, Andrew Patterson to Elizabeth Hitchcock, both of this county, and were married in the presence of several witnesses. Sam'l Johnston, J. P."

In the year 1827 there were recorded 17 marriages, in 1828, 19 marriages. We have thus fully chronicled these first marriages because of the peculiarity of their style of expression, and because the names are now nearly forgotten and lost. Many, however, yet living in Jackson County and elsewhere will recognize in these their ancestral names.

#### THE FIRST WARRANTY DEED.

*To All to Whom these Presents shall Come:*

GREETING: Know ye, that I, John Baptiste James Ionka, of Jackson County and State of Missouri, for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars, lawful money of the United States, to me in hand paid by Joseph Roi, of the county and State aforesaid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold and conveyed, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said Joseph Roi all my right, title and claim unto a certain tract or parcel of land containing six hundred and forty acres, which land I hold as a half-breed of the Kansas Nation or tribe of Indians, by virtue of a reserve made said nation from the United States in the late treaty between the Kansas Nation and the United States, together with all and singular the rights, privileges and appurtenances thereunto belonging unto him, the said Joseph Roi, his heirs and assigns forever; and I do covenant unto the said Joseph Roi that I am lawfully seized in fee of the premises, and that they are free from all encumbrances.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twen-

ty-fifth day of June, eighteen hundred and twenty-eight.

his  
JOHN BAPTISTE X JAMES IONKA.  
mark [SEAL]

Signed, sealed and delivered before us,

ROBERT JOHNSON,

WILLIAM LEWIS.

"STATE OF MISSOURI,  
COUNTY OF JACKSON.

"On the twenty-fifth day of June, eighteen hundred and twenty-eight, John Baptiste James Ionka, personally known to me, appeared before me and executed and acknowledged the above and foregoing instrument of writing, as his hand and seal, for the purpose therein contained, this 25th June 1828.

SAMUEL JOHNSON,  
Justice of Peace."

"STATE OF MISSOURI,  
COUNTY OF JACKSON, ss:

"I Samuel C. Owens, Clerk of the Circuit Court and *ex-officio* Recorder for the county aforesaid, do certify that the preceding instrument of writing from John Baptiste James Ionka to Joseph Roi was filed in my office on the 5th day instant, and by me duly recorded same day, September 3, 1828.

SAMUEL C. OWENS,  
C. C. C. & *Ex-Officio* Recorder."

#### ANOTHER WARRANTY DEED.

This indenture, made and entered into this twenty-ninth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight, between Abner J. Adair and Mary Adair, his wife, of the County of Jackson and State of Missouri, of the first part, and Joseph Adair, of the County of Fleming and State of Kentucky, of the second part; witnesseth, that the party of the first part, through natural love and affection, do give unto our brother, Joseph Adair, of the second part, all that lot or parcel of ground, situate lying and being in the town of Independence, Jackson County, Missouri, numbered twenty and twenty-one, with all the rights, titles claim or interest of us or either of us in law or equity, of, in and to the above premises; to have and hold unto his own proper use, benefit and behoof; for which



we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, to the said Joseph Adair, his heirs or assigns, that the before recited tract of land and premises aforesaid, they will warrant and forever defend against the right, title, claim, interest or estate of all and every person or persons whatever. In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals the day and year aforesaid.

ABNER J. ADAIR, [SEAL].

MARY ADAIR [SEAL].

STATE OF MISSOURI,

COUNTY OF JACKSON, ss:

Be it remembered, that on this tenth day of December, in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and twenty-eight, before me, a justice of the peace within and for the county aforesaid, personally came Abner J. Adair and Mary, his wife, both personally known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument of writing, as having executed the same, and severally acknowledged the same to be their act and deed, for purposes therein mentioned; she, the said Mary Adair, being by me first made acquainted with the contents thereof, and examined separate and apart from her husband, whither she executed the said, and relinquishes her dower to land and tenements therein mentioned voluntarily, freely, and without compulsion or undue influence of her said husband, acknowledged and declared that she executed the said deed, and relinquishes her dower in the said lands and tenements therein mentioned, voluntarily, freely and without compulsion or undue influence of her husband.

Taken and certified the day and year aforesaid.

WILLIAM SILVERS, J. P.

STATE OF MISSOURI,

COUNTY OF JACKSON, ss:

I, Samuel Weston, deputy clerk of the Circuit Court, and ex-officio recorder for the aforesaid, do certify that the foregoing instrument of writing, being a deed from Abner J. Adair and his wife, was filed in the office on the tenth instant, and by me duly recorded same day, December 10, 1828.

SAMUEL WESTON,

Deputy, ex-officio Recorder.

This indenture made and concluded this 12th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and twenty-nine, by and between Samuel Owens, commissioner of the seat of justice for the County of Jackson (the same being the town of Independence), in the State of

Missouri, one the one part, and Abner J. Adair of the other part, witnesseth that the said Samuel C. Owens, commissioner aforesaid, for, and on behalf of the County of Jackson aforesaid, has this day for, and in consideration of twenty-two dollars, lawful money, to him paid by the said Abner J. Adair, the reseipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, bargained and granted, sold and conveyed, and do by these presents bargain, grant, sell and convey unto the said Abner J. Adair, his heirs and assigns forever, certain tracts or parcels of land lying and being in the town of Independence, the same being the seat of justice for the County of Jackson, containing each forty-five square rods and known as the plat of said town by the numbers of twenty and twenty-one, together with all and singular the privileges and appurtenances to the said land, lots, parcels or pieces of ground of aforesaid thereto belonging or in any wise appertaining. To have and to hold the above granted premises to said Abner J. Adair, his heirs and assigns to his and their use and behoof forever. And I, the said Samuel C. Owens, commissioner aforesaid, for and on behalf of the county aforesaid, do covenant with the said Abner J. Adair, his heirs and assigns, that I the said Samuel C. Owens commissioner aforesaid for and on behalf of the county aforesaid, am lawfully seized in fee of the afore granted premises that they are free from all encumbrances. That I, Samuel C. Owens, commissioner aforesaid for and on behalf of the county aforesaid have as such good right to sell and convey the same to the said Abner J. Adair as aforesaid. That I Samuel C. Owens commissioner aforesaid for and on behalf of the county aforesaid will, and that my successor or successors in office shall warrant and forever defend the same to the said Abner J. Adair, his heirs and assigns, against the lawful demands of all persons whatsoever.

In testimony whereof I, Samuel C. Owens, commissioner aforesaid, for and in behalf of the county aforesaid, have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal at the County of Jackson, this day and date aforesaid.

Signed, sealed and acknowledged in the presence of John D. McRay.

SAMUEL C. OWENS. [SEAL.]

“STATE OF MISSOURI,

COUNTY OF JACKSON, ss:

Be it remembered that I, Samuel C. Owens, the within named commissioner, and who was personally known to the undersigned, personally came and appeared before me, John Smith, a justice of the peace within and for the county aforesaid, and acknowledged the within deed of conveyance for and on behalf of the county aforesaid, and that the premises

herein described to be the property of Abner J. Adair.

Given under my hand and seal this 18th day of August, 1829.

JOHN SMITH, J. P."

"STATE OF MISSOURI,

COUNTY OF JACKSON, ss:

I, Samuel C. Owens, of the Circuit Court, and Ex-Officio Recorder for the county aforesaid, do certify that the foregoing deed from Samuel C. Owens, commissioner on the part of said county to A. J. Adair, was filed and recorded in my office on the 18th of August, A. D. 1829.

SAMUEL C. OWENS,

C. C. C. J. C."

#### EARLY LAND ENTRIES.

There is in the Recorder's office at Independence, an old plat book showing the names of all persons who entered the land and date of entry from the Government. It is found on said plat book that the first patent issued for land purchased was to John Davis, for the northwest quarter of section 19, township 49, range 31, on the 6th day of November, 1828, and the same day patents were issued as follows: Richard Fristoe for the northwest quarter of section 19, township 49, range 31, and to Lawrence Flournoy for the southwest quarter of section 19, township 49, range 31.

After that entries were made pretty fast. The following will show the first few entries made in each township:

First entries township 47, range 29, Aug. 30, 1832, William Crawford, southeast quarter of northeast quarter section 32; Aug. 30, 1832, Charles Hopper, west half of the northwest quarter and northwest quarter of southwest quarter section 20.

Township 48, range 29, Aug. 30, 1832, James Welch, west half of southwest quarter section 18; Sept. 4, 1832, John Cox, southeast quarter of northeast quarter section 21.

Township 49, range 29, Oct. 10, 1832, Leonard R. Renick, west half of northwest section 6; Nov. 15, 1832, Jas. Henderson, east half of northwest section 17.

Township 50, range 29, Hugh Dickinson, south half of southwest section 32; Oct. 23, 1832, William Renick, east half of southeast section 33.

Township 47, range 30, Aug. 3, 1830, Jno. Powell, west half of southwest quarter of section 31; Jan. 20, 1830, Redan Crisp, west half of southeast quarter section 27.

Township 48, range 30, Jan. 16, 1830, Francis Price, east half of



northwest section 29; April 22, 1833, Stephen Crawford, southwest quarter of southwest quarter of section 15.

Township 49, range 30, Feb. 18, 1841, Gallant Dickinson, west half of southeast section 14; Aug. 3, 1840, Silas Gibson, west half of northeast quarter of section 15; Aug. 3, 1840, Jno. Gilliam, northwest quarter of section 1; Aug. 3, 1840, Robert A. Renick, northeast quarter of section 1.

Township 50, range 30, Feb. 4, 1840, David F. M. McClennan, southeast quarter of section 4; Feb. 4, 1840, Abraham McClellan, northeast quarter of section 4. Nearly whole township entered in 1840.

Township 51, range 30, May 3, 1835, Wm. P. McClennan, southwest quarter section 34; Feb. 3, 1834, Geo. C. Sibley, southeast quarter of section 34.

Township 47, range 31, Jan. 20, 1830, Jacob Powell, east half of southeast quarter of section 30; July 2, 1836, Bazil Coon, east half of southeast section 24. Balance principally entered from 1852 to 1856.

Township 49, range 31, Sept. 20, 1831, Doctor Smith, west half of northwest quarter section 33; Feb. 28, 1832, N. B. Stone, east half of southwest quarter of section 32; Jan. 16, 1830, Sam'l Hink, west half of northwest section 23. Mostly all entered by 1850.

Township 49, range 31, Aug. 3, 1833, Larkin Johnson, southeast quarter of southwest quarter of section 32; Aug. 16, 1830, R. D. Stanley, southwest quarter of southeast quarter section 34; July 24, 1832, R. D. Stanley, southeast quarter of southeast quarter of section 34; Feb. 2, 1829, John Smith, west half of northeast section 26; Nov. 25, 1828, Ira Smith, west half of northwest quarter of southeast quarter of section 26; Nov. 6, 1820, John Davis, northwest quarter of section 19; Nov. 6, 1828, Richard Foster, northwest quarter of section 18; Nov. 6, 1828, Lawrence Flournoy, southwest quarter of section 7; Dec. 30, 1828, Thos. Nelson, northwest quarter of section 4.

Township 50, range 31, Dec. 5, 1828, Morris Baker, east half of southeast quarter of section 31; Nov. 7, 1828, Roland Flournoy, west half of north section 31.

Township 51, range 31, Dec. 29, 1831, Helen Fry, east half of southeast quarter of section 34; Jan. 24, 1832, east half of southwest quarter of section 34.

Township 47, range 32, Jan. 25, 1825, Ansen McCracken, southwest quarter of southwest quarter of section 19; March 4, 1825, Sam'l Parsen, northeast quarter of northeast quarter of section 20; Oct. 10, 1833, Jas. Lawrence, southeast quarter of southeast quarter of section 17.

Township 48, range 32, not surveyed until 1843, Feb. 2, 1844, Franklin M. Emison, southwest quarter of section 4; Feb. 19, 1844, Geo. W. Rhodes, southwest quarter of section 4; July 22, 1844, Arch Rice, west half of southwest quarter of section 5, and east half of southeast quarter section 6; Feb. 22, 1844, Stephen C. Oldham, northwest quarter of section 9.

Township 49, range 32, Nov. 11, 1828, James Chambers, west half of southeast quarter of section 22; Nov. 11, 1828, Gan Johnson, west half of northwest quarter of section 22; Nov. 11, 1828, Jos. Shepherd, west half of northeast quarter of section 12.

Township 50, range 32, Nov. 2, 1829, Jno. B. Flournoy, east half of southwest quarter of section 24; Oct. 20, 1829, Jno. Whitman, east half of northeast half of section 27; July 23, 1827, Jno. Williams, east half of southeast of section 27.

Township 47, range 33, not surveyed until 1843, Dec. 11, 1844, Jno. Bartleson, southwest quarter of section 33; Jan. 2, 1845, Thos. Millsop, southeast section 32; Dec. 17, 1844, Joel Lipscomb, east half of southeast quarter of section 6.

Township 48, range 33, Aug. 22, 1833, E. A. Milburne, west half of southwest section 32; Nov. 15, 1830, Sam'l Son, northeast quarter of section 3; June 6, 1831, Dan'l M. Boone, west half of southeast quarter section 4; June 27, 1831, Francis Travis, west half of northwest of section 11; Nov. 9, 1835, Geo. and John Fitzhugh, south half of section 31.

Township 49, range 33, Nov. 14, 1825, Anderson P. Patterson, northwest quarter of section 30 (county clerk); Nov. 14, 1828, Robt. Johnson, east half of southeast quarter of section 18; Oct. 12, 1831, Edward Partridge, northwest quarter of section 13; Dec. 8, 1832, Edward Partridge, northeast quarter of section 13.

Township 50, range 33, Feb. 1, 1833, Francis Choteau, east half of fractional section 28; July 12, 1833, Pierre M. Choteau, southwest quarter of section 22; July 7, 1835, Eypraim Choteau, west half of west half of section 27; Nov. 6, 1835, Jos. Self, east half of southeast section 33; May 11, 1828, Wm. Bonnery and Jno. Lovelady, east half of southwest of section 36; April 1, 1831, Thos. Linville, west half of southwest quarter of section 36.

#### FIRST ROAD RECORDS.

First Road Petition Tuesday morning, May 22, 1827.

On petition of twelve householders inhabitants of the County presents to the Court by Mr. Francis Pine, praying for the appointment of suitable

persons to view a road from the Waggon fords of Little Blue to Prairie Ferry. It is therefore ordered by the Court that James Lewis, Jas. Blakely, Isaac Allen, Dabney Johnson and Benedict Weldon be appointed Commissioners to view and make said road the nearest and best way.

Jacob Gregg presents to the Court the following account:

The County of Jackson Dr. to Jacob Gregg.

For ten days services rendered the County in 1826, in taking the census \$10.00

Ordered that the said account be paid to the said Jacob Gregg, out of any monies in the County treasury not otherwise appropriated.

The Court orders that they now proceed to the appointment of a commissioner for the seat of justice of this county. Whereupon Samuel Newton was appointed and entered into Bond and surety accordingly and took the oath prescribed by law.

The Court orders that the Commissioner of the seat of Justice of the County be directed to proceed to lay off the town of Independence, on the southwest quarter of section 2, township 49, range 32, west of 5th Principal Meridian and to have a plat of said town prepared and ready to lay, before the Court at a special term which will be held on Friday the first day of June.

Special Term, June 1st, 1827.

Court met pursuant to adjournment all members present. In pursuance of an order of Court, Samuel Newton, Commissioner of seat of Justice made the following report:

To the Honorable County Court of Jackson County:

The undersigned commissioner of the seat of justice for the County of Jackson reports, that in pursuance of an order of the Court, to him directed has proceeded to lay off the Town of Independence on the quarter Section of land selected for the purpose and has prepared a plat of same, which is herewith presented for the consideration of the Court.

Independence,  
June 1, 1827

Samuel Newton, Comr. of seat of  
Justice for Jackson Co.

Ordered the plat of the Town of Independence, the seat of Justice of the County, this day presented to the Court by the Commissioner of the seat of Justice, be approved and that the following certificate of approval be endorsed on the said plat to-wit:



State of Missouri)

Sct. County Court Special Term 1st June 1827

County of Jackson)

We the undersigned Justices of the County Court, within and for the County of Jackson, do approve of the within plat of the town of Independence, the seat of Justice of this County and direct the same to be deposited in the office of the recorder of this county for safe keeping.

Given under our hands and seals this day and date above written.

Signed, Abraham McClennan (seal)

Richard Fristo (seal)

Henry Burrus (seal)

Ordered that the Commissioners of the seat of Justice be directed to have a copy of the plat of the Town of Independence prepared on or before the first sale of lots in said town and that a copy of this order be furnished to him.

At that time stores must have been scarce where books and stationery could be furnished. We find that the clerk of the court had to go away from here to buy supplies, as evidenced by the following account:

Record No. 5.

L. W. Boggs presented to the Court the following account

The County of Jackson (for County Clerk's office)

Dr. to L. W. Boggs

For cash paid at Liberty for 2 blank books \$4.50

We find that newspapers were also scarce in Jackson County at that time, and the people had to go away from home to get their legal notices published, as witness the following:

Account No. 6

L. W. Boggs presented to the Court the following account

The County of Jackson Dr. to L. W. Boggs

For cash paid Nathl. Patten for publishing in the Missouri Intelligencer the notice of the intended presentation of a petition from the inhabitants of Jackson County to the last Legislature praying the establishment of that County, April 20, 1827, as per receipt herewith—\$4.00.

Ordered same be allowed and paid out of any money not otherwise appropriated.

Ordered that the following described lots in the town of Independence be restored and appropriated for the following purposes, to-wit:

Lot 143 containing  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres reserved for purpose of public spring.

Lot No. 2 reserved for the purpose of common jail.

As an estimate of the value of lots in Independence at that time, the following order of the court will explain the ideas of the court:

Ordered that the Commissioner of the seat of Justice be directed to proceed to give such public notice as he may deem necessary that a public sale of the lots of the town of Independence be held at the County Seat on Monday, the 9th day of July next, and that the sale be continued for three days, in succession unless sooner disposed of and that the commissioner be directed to proceed on that day to offer each lot separately until the whole number of lots have been offered for sale and it is further ordered that the terms and conditions of the sale shall be as follows, to-wit: All of Lots of less size than 1 acre not to be sold for less than Ten Dollars, all lots of 1 acre or more for not less than \$10.00 per acre. One fourth of the purchase price to be paid on the day of the sale, and the balance in three equal installments Twelve, Eighteen and Twenty four months from and after the day of sale.

Since the adjournment of the court held June 1st, some of its members must have had a change of view as to the value of lots in Independence. At a special term of said court held July 7, 1827, we find the following on the records of the court:

This Court orders that so much of the order of this Court which was made on the 1st day of June, relating to the price of lots in the town of Independence as fixes the price of all lots of one or more acres at Ten Dollars, per acre, be reserved and that the Commissioner of the seat of Justice be directed to offer any lot containing one or more acres at Five Dollars per acre and not to dispose of any such lots for a less price per acre.

Ordered that the Court do now proceed to appointment of a constable for each township in this county for one year whereon the court appointed James W. McClellan constable of Ft. Osage Township, Joseph Brown, constable for Blue Township, Richard Hancock, constable for Kaw Township.

We wonder what some of the county assessors of the State of Missouri at this time would think if they were called upon to asses their county for the munificent amount paid for the first assessment made of the property of Jackson County. Here is an itemized account of the total cost of making the assessment for the year 1827:

Richard B. Chiles, paid into the Court the following account.

The State of Missouri Dr. to Richard B. Chiles

For 12 days services as assessor for the County of Jackson for the  
year 1827, at \$1.75 per day -----\$21.00

Ordered that the above account of \$21.00 be allowed and approved and certified to the auditor of public accounts.

At that time the members of the county courts were paid \$1.75 per day for their services, as evidenced by the first bill ever presented for allowance for services as a member of said court in this county:

The County of Jackson Dr. to Abraham McClellan

1827

May 22nd to 2 days services as Justice of the County Court at special term, May 21, 22 at \$1.75	\$3.50
June 1st to 1 days service at special term	1.75
July 8th to 1 days service at special term	1.75
Total	\$7.00

The clerks of courts were not paid as large salaries as now. The first account allowed for services as county clerk of this county was as follows:

Lilburn W. Bogg presented to the Court his account against the County for fees as County Clerk amounting to Twenty Four Dollars 87½ Cents. Ordered that said account be allowed and paid as follows:

\$5.89 out of any monies in the treasury arising from sale of lots at the County Seat, and \$18.98 out of any money in the County Treasury appropriated to County expenditures.

#### FIRST FERRY.

There were no bridges over the Missouri River and as the roads of the traveling points passing from one point to another demanded means of crossing, ferry boats and landings were put into service at many points on the river. The law demanded that every person keeping a ferry should have a license from the county in which it was operated, and gave the county court authority to fix the amount to be charged for rendering the service. At the November term, 1827, an order is found as follows:

On petition of citizens this day presented to the Court praying for the establishment of a Ferry across the Missouri River at the place called Uneaw's Ferry about three miles below Chouteaus former trading house. It is ordered by the Court that clerk of this Circuit issue to said Uneaw a license for one year to keep a ferry at the place aforesaid upon the production of the collectors receipt and entering into bond with sufficient security Tax \$2.00 and it is further ordered that the following rates be allowed to said Uneaw, to-wit:

For loaded wagon and 5 horses	\$1.50
" Empty wagon and 5 horses	1.00
" Light wagon or Dearborn	.75





OLD JACKSON COUNTY COURT HOUSE.



THE RANDALL RESIDENCE, INDEPENDENCE.



" 2 wheeled carriage -----	.50
" Man and horse -----	.25
" Each horse without rider -----	.12½
" Every head of meat cattle -----	.12½
" Each head hog, sheep or goat -----	.05
" Each footman -----	.12½
" Each 100 ft. of lumber not belonging to wagon-----	.12½

## FIRST SALE OF LOTS.

Independence was laid out by David Ward, Julius Emmons and John Bartleson in 1827. These gentlemen were appointed by the General Assembly of Missouri to preempt a tract of land upon which to locate a county seat for Jackson County; their final report bears the date of March, 1827. The first court was held by David Todd, on the 21st of May, following. The original town plat contained 240 acres, upon which have been found sixteen springs of pure water. The first public land was sold in Jackson County on the 11th day of November, 1828.

The first census of Jackson County was taken by Mr. Jacob Gregg, in 1826, and he received \$10 for ten days services. It hardly looks as if it could have been thoroughly done in that time by one person, but such is the record.

Mr. Samuel Newton was the commissioner appointed to number the lots and his report gives much of local interest. Labor was cheap, one dollar a day being his own charge for services. He quotes whisky at 50 cents per gallon, and he charged the city 25 cents for the survey of each lot.

S. G. Owens, Garrett M. Hensley, Jno. R. Swearingen and Judge John Smith were appointed commissioners to sell lots. John Dunston was surveyor, and completed his work Jan. 9, 1827, afterward the town was platted off by Geo. W. Rhodes, which plat is on record in the office. Abner J. Adair purchased the first lots, Nos. 20 and 21, in the old town. Three years after the first part of the town was laid off, the annexed part, the south half of northwest quarter of section No. 2, was added by special act of the Legislature, and Abram McClelland was appointed commissioner to convey the property to various individual purchasers. This act was passed in 1831.

The first sale of lots took place on the 9th, 10th and 11th days of July, 1827, and in the Recorder's office will be found the report of the



commissioner of the sale to the court. The account reads: "Commissioner's accounts of lots sold in the town of Independence, at the first sale, on the ninth, tenth and eleventh days of July, A. D. 1827."

- Lot No. 6, James Allen, \$11.50; James Blakely, security.
- Lot No. 4, John Cornet, \$14.62; L. W. Boggs, security.
- Lot No. 74, Jesse Butler, \$10.00; James Kimzey, security.
- Lots Nos. 116, 19, 135 and 136, Samuel Newton; Samuel C. Owens, security.
- Lot No. 20, Isaac Blanton, \$12.00; John Blanton, security.
- Lot No. 61, John Thornton, \$12.00; Samuel C. Owens, security.
- Lot No. 44, Nimrod McCracken, \$10.00; James Kimzey, security.
- Lot No. 64, James Flourney, \$34.50; S. G. Flourney, security.
- Lot No. 38, Fitzhugh & Willson, \$15.71; John Fitzhugh, security.
- Lot No. 65, Lawrence Flourney, \$21.50; Rowland Flourney, security.
- Lot No. 78, James Kimzey, \$10.00; Jesse Butler, security.
- Lot No. 8, Edward Sneed, \$14.00; J. R. Walker, security.
- Lot No. 130, Jacob Gregg, \$30.73; L. W. Boggs, security.
- Lot No. 50, Thos. Pitcher, \$35.25; William Noland, security.
- Lot No. 18, Smallwood V. Noland, \$25.20; Eli Glascock, security.
- Lot No. 13, Joseph Roy, \$40.50; Mark Foster, security.
- Lot No. 57, James Rothwell, \$14.08; Joel P. Walker, security.
- Lot No. 53, Joseph Brown, \$42.00; Elisha Todd, security.
- Lot No. 3, Armenius Cary, \$11.38; Richard Fristoe, security.
- Lot No. 5, Geo. H. Arnold, \$25.25; Mark Foster, security.
- Lot No. 12, Richard Fristoe, \$34.00; John Cornet, security.
- Lot No. 47, John Cornet, \$10.00; Edward Wilburn, security.
- Lot No. 11, James Aull, \$32.00; Richard Fristoe, security.
- Lot No. 93, Solomon G. Flourney, \$49.72; Rowland Flourney, security.
- Lot No. 63, John Thornton, \$11.25; Sam'l C. Owens, security.
- Lot No. 49, Jacob Gregg, \$12.50; J. R. Walker, security.
- Lot No. 66, John Smith, \$20.00; Ira Smith, security.
- Lot No. 139, James King, \$23.02; William Silvers, security.
- Lot No. 142, Lewis Jones, \$42.20; James Moze, security.
- Lot No. 133, James Kimzey, \$18.94; Eli Roberts, security.
- Lot No. 112, G. Johnston, \$10.00; S. V. Noland, security.
- Lot No. 94, S. V. Noland, \$15.15; G. Johnston, security.
- Lots Nos. 113 and 114, G. Johnston, \$20.00; S. V. Noland, security.
- Lot No. 71, Eli Roberts, \$10.00; James Kimzey, security.
- Lot No. 103, Cicero Brown, \$10.00; Gan Johnston, security.

Lot No. 76, Daniel Monroe, \$10.00; Elisha Todd, security.

Lots Nos. 134, 127, 124, 125, 126, 79, M. Franker & E. Todd; Eli Roberts, security.

Lots Nos. 73 and 85, Lewis Jones, \$22.00; James Moze, security.

Lot No. 132, L. W. Boggs, \$9.25; J. R. Swearingen, security.

Lot No. 128, John Young, \$14.44; Rob't Johnson, security.

Lot No. 9, Solomon Flournoy, \$20.00; S. C. Owens, security.

Lot No. 70, Rowland Flournoy, \$12.00; S. G. Flournoy, security.

Lot No. 69, Lawrence Flournoy, \$10.00; R. Flournoy, security.

Lot No. 56, Wm. Conner, \$12.00; Aaron Overton, security.

Lot No. 39, James Savage, \$6.64; Henry Burris, security.

Lot No. 134, Jacob Gregg, \$9.16; L. W. Boggs, security.

Lot No. 62, John Cornet, \$10.00; Richard Fristoe, security.

Lots No. 67 and 75, Eli Roberts, \$26.50; I. D. Dickey, security.

Lot No. 58, Geo. H. Arnold, \$16.00; Eli Roberts and Wm. Silvers, security.

Lot No. 72, James Kimzey, \$27.00; Samuel Kimzey, security.

Lot No. 60, Cicero Brown, \$32.00; Gan Johnston, security.

Lot No. 52, Elisha Todd, \$43.00; Joseph Brown, security.

Lot No. 68, Eli Roberts, \$15.00; J. D. Dickey, security.

Lot No. 111, John Smith, \$11.75; Ira Smith, security.

Lot No. 37, James H. Wilson, \$10.00; S. Fitzhugh, security.

Lot No. 40, Solomon Fitzhugh, \$10.00; Jas. H. Wilson, security.

Lot No. 137, John Thornton, \$20.44; Samuel C. Owens, security.

Lot No. 92, James Flournoy, \$21.72; R. Flournoy, security.

Lot No. 29, Levi Yates, \$10.00; Wm. Yates, security.

Lot No. 141, James King, \$11.85; Wm. Silvers, security.

Lot No. 21, S. C. Owens and Ed. Wilburn, \$10.00; F. Flournoy, security.

Lot No. 55, Aaron Overton, \$14.64; Wm. Conner, security.

Total amount of cash received for the sale of land was \$374.57. The lots were sold partly on time, and about one-fourth of the amount of each lot was paid down. The following receipt was given for the cash paid at the sale:

"Received of Samuel Newton, commissioner of the seat of justice for Jackson County, \$374.57, being the whole amount of moneys collected by him on account of sales of lots in the town of Independence, up to this date.

Independence, August 6, 1827.

L. W. BOGGS, Clerk,  
Acting County Treasurer."

Some of the payments on lots became due in July, others in August, and later periods.

We give the following voucher as showing the way the business was done, the money received and the kind being fully given in the receipt:

"Received of Lewis Jones, commissioner of the seat of justice for Jackson County, Two Hundred and Sixty-Eight Dollars and eighteen cents in specie, and Fifty Dollars in United States paper; Fifteen Dollars in Auditor's warrants, taken of L. W. Boggs, by order of the court; Eighteen Dollars in county warrants, payable to L. W. Boggs; paid S. C. Owens, as County Treasurer, Eighteen Dollars and ninety-two cents; also seven dollars and fifty cents, in two notes—one on Smith and the other on John Cornet, both to be charged to said John Smith, as the bidder of the public gaol; making in the whole, allowing the said Lewis Jones one-half per cent for collection, three hundred and sixty-six dollars and fifty-six cents. This 2d day of February, A. D. 1829.

"SAM'L C. OWENS, Clerk,

"Acting as County Treasurer."

It may be interesting to some of the present day lot owners to know where some of those lots that brought the former prices are situated. Lot 10, that was sold at the sale to Solomon Flournoy for \$40.50, is the lot on which Clinton's drug store and Casper and Shimfessel's store now stands. Lot 11, that was sold to James Aull for \$32.00, is the lot on which Beaty's jewelry store now stands.

Lot 13, for which James Roy paid \$40.50, is the lot on which the Watkins Music Company and Fuche's jewelry store and Cook and Dillingham's shoe store now stands. Lot 18, for which Smallwood B. Noland paid the big price of \$25.50, is now occupied by the Bank of Independence, DeCoursey's store, and other properties.

Lot 20, for which Lewis Jones paid \$34.50, is now occupied by the Air Line depot. Lot 19, for which Daniel Munro paid \$10.25, is the lot just east of the Air Line depot. Lot 50, for which Thomas Pitcher paid \$35.25, now occupied by Bostains the Fashion, Sturges jewelry store and Dooleys. Lot 51 is now occupied by Pendleton and Gentry's drug store and other buildings. Lot 73, that was bought by James Kimzey for \$27.00, is now occupied by the Chrisman Sawyer Banking Company and the Jackson County Bank.

Lot 64, for which Jones Flournoy paid \$34.50, is now occupied by Sam Turoff store, Puckett's fruit store and others.



Lot 69, now occupied by the Mize Hardware Company, was sold for \$10.00 to Lawrence Flournoy. The lot on which the Mason building stands was sold to Roland Flournoy for \$10.00.

Cicero Brown paid \$10.00 for the lot on which the City Hall stands. Elisha Todd paid \$42.00 for the lot on which Ott & Sampson building now stands.

Lot 43, for which James Brown paid \$41.00, is now occupied by the Bundschu store. Lot 5, for which Geo. Alexander paid \$25.25, is now occupied by the Hill Bros. hardware store.

It developed at the sale that demand for Independence property was not very urgent; that money was scarce or not many bidders that wanted to buy. There were 143 lots laid out and only 85 of them sold at the sale. The amount presented by Mr. Newton for the expense of the sale was as follows:

Jackson County,

To the Commissioners of the Seat of Justice Dr.

1827

June 29.	To preparing Mulberry stakes-----	\$ 1.00
" "	James King 3 days packing and driving stakes-----	2.50
" "	Jno. Dustan surveying the town of Independence 123 lots at 25 cents -----	26.95
July 9.	Myself 5 days for laying off the Town at 75 cents-----	3.75
" "	Writing and putting up advertisements -----	2.00
" "	4 quires writing paper -----	1.50
" "	2 sheets of paste board -----	.25
" "	3 days crying sale at \$2.50 per day-----	6.50
" "	Samuel C. Owens 4 days writing at \$1.00-----	4.00
" "	7 gallons of whisky at 50 cents per gallon-----	3.50
" "	Boy waiting at sale -----	.25
" "	Commission on \$374.57 at 2½% -----	9.36
" "	House rent 3 days at \$1.00 -----	3.00
Total -----		\$64.56

We wonder what the county court or the people of the present day would think if such an account was presented for payment. At that day and time people looked upon the liquor traffic in a very different light than the present day. The court made the following order in relation to same:

Ordered that the sum of \$64.56 be allowed Samuel Newton as Commissioner of the seat of justice for this County, being the amount of his account this day presented to the Court, and settled and entered in this book page 15, and it is further ordered that the Clerk issue a Warrant for the said sum payable out of any moneys in the County treasury arising from the sale of lots at the County seat.

## CHAPTER XI

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### JACKSON COUNTY IN THE MEXICAN WAR

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PRESIDENT CALLS FOR 50,000 VOLUNTEERS—EIGHT COMPANIES RAISED—  
OFFICERS ELECTED—DONIPHAN ELECTED COLONEL—CAPTAIN WALDO  
COMMANDS COMPANY A—ROSTER OF COMPANY—"DONIPHAN'S EXPEDITION"  
--BATTLE OF SACRAMENTO—MAJOR OWENS KILLED—CLOSE OF WAR—MIS-  
SOURIANS DISCHARGED AT NEW ORLEANS—SOLDIERS RETURN HOME—  
RECEPTION OF VETERANS AT INDEPENDENCE.

When war was declared by the United States against Mexico in A. D. 1846, the President called for an army of 50,000 volunteers, troops designed to operate against Mexicans. Missouri was called upon to furnish one regiment of mounted men. They were to meet at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, and be mustered into service of the United States.

The regiment was composed of eight companies, designated as companies A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H, respectively, from the counties of Jackson, Lafayette, Clay, Saline, Franklin, Cole, Howard and Calloway, commanded by Captains Waldo, Walton, Moss, Reid, Stephenson, Parsons, Jackson and Rodgers, 856 men. All of the companies having arrived, an election was held for the regimental officers, and resulted in the following men being chosen: For colonel, Alexander W. Doniphan, a private soldier from the Clay County company; for lieutenant-colonel, C. F. Ruff, a private from Clay County; for major, William Gilpin, a private from the Jackson County company.

Lieutenant-colonel Ruff was a graduate of the military establishment of West Point, and had been appointed second lieutenant of the First Dragoons (as cavalry soldiers were then called), but had resigned his commission in the army and entered civil life. He resigned his commission in the volunteer service Sept. 18, 1846, and was appointed captain in



the regular army. An election was called to fill the vacancy in the office of lieutenant-colonel, which resulted in the election of Capt. Congreve Jackson, of Howard County. Colonel Ruff, being a West Pointer, tried to enforce the rigid discipline of the regular army upon the volunteers, which they resented to its fullest extent. The following is the roster showing the names and rank of Capt. David Waldo's Company A in the First regiment, Missouri mounted volunteers, Mexican War:

COMPANY A.  
(Jackson County.)

Roster showing names and rank of Capt. David Waldo's Company A in the First regiment, Missouri mounted volunteers, Mexican War.

Endorsed. Doniphan's Regiment.

David Waldo, captain.

Memo: Roll signed, David Waldo, captain.

Company accepted into the service of the U. S. for term of twelve months, from June 6, 1846, by J. Allen, Captain First Dragoons Insp. and Mustering Officer.

The following certificate appears on the roll:

Camp Peake of Perdenal, October 22, 1846:—I certify on honor that this is a correct copy of the original Muster Roll, with the exception of Private James E. Lacey, who deserted the 18th day of June, 1846, and Private Ezekiel Carlton, in the place of R. B. Bowers, who was mustered into the service of the United States the 28th of June, 1846, by order of Col. S. W. Kearny, and John S. Webb, who was mustered into the service of the United States on the 19th day of September, 1846, all of which cases have arisen between the 6th of June, 1846, and the present time.

I also certify on honor, that all the names which affect the rights of the non-commissioned officers and men to one year's allowance of clothing have been put on this Muster Roll.

John Reid, 1st Lieutenant Co. A,  
Regt. Missouri Mounted Rifles.

Memo: Capt. David Waldo's Co. A, 1st Regt. Missouri Mounted Vols. Mexican War. Company Muster Roll for June 6, 1846, to June 22, 1847, shows station of company, New Orleans, La.

Record of Events:

The company was organized at Independence, Jackson County, Missouri, and marched from Independence on the 4th of June to Fort Leavenworth, and arrived the 6th day of June.

Extract from Order No. 59 of Maj.-Gen. Taylor, dated Camp near Monterey, Mexico, May 26, 1847. (This applies to all companies, and is set down in the cards of all, but will be omitted from records of companies following—W. E. C.)

At Carmago: Col. Doniphan will detach a sufficient number of men from each company to conduct the horses and other animals of the command by land to Mo. The men so detached will leave the necessary papers to enable their pay to be drawn when their companies are discharged at New Orleans, La. By order Maj.-Gen. Taylor.

(Signed) W. W. Bliss, A. A. A. G.

Roll Signed: David Waldo, Captain.

Company was mustered for discharge at New Orleans, La., June 22, 1847, and honorably discharged by S. Churchill, Insp. Gen. Mustering Officer.

#### ROSTER.

1.	David Waldo	Captain
1.	John Reid	1st Lieut.
1.	James S. Oldham	2nd Lieut.
2.	Henry I. Chiles	2nd Lieut.
1.	John S. Webb	1st Sergt.
2.	Richard B. Buckner	Sergt.
3.	Samuel S. White	Sergt.
4.	Richard Simpson	Sergt.
1.	James Mundy	Corpl.
2.	Thos. Moore	Corpl.
3.	Jesse Frierson	Corpl.
4.	William E. Bush	Corpl.
1.	Lemuel Jepson	Bugler
2.	Chas. Miller	Bugler
1.	Joseph W. Hamilton	Farrier
1.	Aud, Francis L.	Private
2.	Asbury, Squire	Private
3.	Bean, Samuel	Private
4.	Boswell, William	Private
5.	Bush, William D.	Private
6.	Burton, William T.	Private
7.	Burton, Beverly I.	Private
8.	Bowlin, James	Private

9.	Clift, James H.	Private
10.	Cogswell, William	Private
11.	Copeland, William L.	Private
12.	Copeland, Anthony N.	Private
13.	Carlton, Ezekial	Private
14.	Cannon, William N.	Private
15.	Campbell, John E.	Private
16.	Clayton, James R.	Private
17.	Capell, Britton	Private
18.	Capell, John I.	Private
19.	Chiles, Elijah J.	Private
20.	Crenshaw, John T.	Private
21.	Ells, Nathan	Private
22.	Forrest, Lorenzo D.	Private
23.	Flournoy, Matthew I.	Private
24.	Franklin, John R.	Private
25.	Gilpin, William	Private
26.	Gibson, John R.	Private
27.	Greenwood, Fontleroy D.	Private
28.	Hamilton, Christopher C.	Private
29.	Haines, Michael D.	Private
30.	Hildebrand, Levi	Private
31.	Jones, David A.	Private
32.	Jenks, Christopher	Private
33.	Killbuck, Washington	Private
34.	Knighton, Perry	Private
35.	Lucas, John T.	Private
36.	Lucas, James A.	Private
37.	Latz, Benjamin	Private
38.	Lindsay, Alfred O.	Private
39.	Lillard, Morgan	Private
40.	Lemmons, Benjamin	Private
41.	Lemmons, Washington	Private
42.	Lewis, Richard	Private
43.	Moody, Andrew J.	Private
44.	Meek, Robert G.	Private
45.	Maim, Christopher	Private
46.	Maim, Elson	Private
47.	McMurray, John H.	Private



48.	Massie, Thomas H. -----	Private
49.	McElrath, James -----	Private
50.	McKeller, John -----	Private
51.	Nichols, Daniel -----	Private
52.	Noland, Jesse -----	Private
53.	Overton, William R. -----	Private
54.	Owens, James W. -----	Private
55.	Patton, John W. H. -----	Private
56.	Pringle, George A. -----	Private
57.	Palmer, Jonathan R. -----	Private
58.	Parish, Sidney G. -----	Private
59.	Phelps, Richard S. -----	Private
60.	Patterson, Andrew J. -----	Private
61.	Patrick, Dudley -----	Private
62.	Pool, James M. -----	Private
63.	Powell, David L. -----	Private
64.	Pollard, Samuel A. -----	Private
65.	Ryan, Henry M. -----	Private
66.	Renick, Chatham E. -----	Private
67.	Riggs, Henry C. -----	Private
68.	Riggs, William S. -----	Private
69.	Smith, Hugh N. -----	Private
70.	Sprague, Davis -----	Private
71.	Sharpe, George -----	Private
72.	Sharpe, Leonard B. -----	Private
73.	Searsm, Peter A. -----	Private
74.	Speed, James -----	Private
75.	Triplett, Zela -----	Private
76.	Tyler, Perry I. -----	Private
77.	Vigus, John K. -----	Private
78.	White, Wafer S. -----	Private
79.	Wear, John -----	Private
80.	Wear, James A. -----	Private
81.	Wear, Abraham W. -----	Private
82.	Wear, Samuel C. -----	Private
83.	Watts, John S. -----	Private
84.	Wilson, John C. -----	Private
85.	Waller, Shelby -----	Private
86.	Webb, George B. -----	Private

87.	Walker, Collins	-----Private
88.	Woodland, John L.	-----Private
89.	Wallace, James W.	-----Private
90.	Young, William M.	-----Private
91.	Zeller, Henry	-----Private
92.	King, Walter	-----Private
93.	Cox, James	-----Private
94.	Douglas, Oliver T.	-----Private
95.	Fugate, Francis	-----Private
96.	Mount, Thornton A.	-----Private
97.	Riggs, Green B.	-----Private
98.	Crabtree, Isaac	-----Private
99.	Johnson, Waldo P.	-----Private
100.	Foster, William	-----Private
101.	Lacy, L. E.	-----Private

Hon. W. C. Connelley, Secretary of the Kansas Historical Society, has issued a revised edition of Doniphan's expedition (a history that was prepared and published by John T. Hughes, a member of Company "C" of that regiment.)

John T. Hughes lived in Clay County and at the outbreak of the Civil War he joined the Confederate army and was commissioned a colonel. He was killed at the battle of Independence, Aug. 11, 1861. In the preface of that book he uses the following language:

"In many respects Doniphan's expedition was the most wonderful of which history tells. And it was not only marvelous—it accomplished much, few campaigns having ever accomplished more. For one thing, it saved Buena Vista and averted disaster to the American arms on the bloody field. For Colonel Doniphan not only had no help from Generals Taylor and Wool, but by dividing the Mexican forces he saved them from destruction. Had they done one-half as well at Buena Vista as did Colonel Doniphan at Sacramento, Santa Anna's army would have been destroyed the first day, with plenty of time to spare. And what a strange thing it is that Colonel Doniphan got no promotion for his brilliant achievements! Colonel Price was made a brigadier-general. This gross injustice to Colonel Doniphan I believe it my duty to point out. The state of Kansas honored him by naming a county and town for him, and the state of Missouri named the seat of Ripley County in his honor.

The battle of Sacramento was the most wonderful ever fought by American arms. Dewey's battle in Manila Bay may be set down as its only

rival. The only land battle at all approaching it was that of New Orleans, but in that battle the Americans fought at home, on their own soil, behind fortifications. The battle of Sacramento far outranks it. Colonel Doniphan's men attacked a fortified position held by troops outnumbering them nearly five to one. They were in a strange land, thousands of miles from home. They were in rags, suffering from starvation. They were seemingly abandoned by their government and left to their fate. In case of defeat there was no hope of succor—nothing but inevitable destruction. But all these discouragements did not daunt the Missourians. They made their arrangements for battle as coolly as they would have planned the reaping of a field at home. They would not be hurried by the tactics of the enemy, but stood under fire a long time carrying out their preliminary movements to the minutest details; they even had their jokes. A shot from the enemy's cannon carried away part of the cap of a Missourian and he remarked with apparent unconcern, "I want to tell you they shoot mighty d——d close in this country," and went on with his preparations for the battle. And when the Americans were finally ready to begin to fight they charged with the force of the thunderbolt. They were irresistible. They never halted. They poured over the fortifications of the enemy and routed his forces from the trenches. They overwhelmed the Mexicans by their audacity and furious courage.

That charge was as gallant and heroic as any ever made in the world. It was as resistless as the avalanche, grim as death, inexorable as fate. It has never been equaled in all the annals of the world's warfare.

To those heroic Americans, Missourians by birth or adoption, we accord honor and fame and glory. They stand the peers of any soldiers that ever shouldered arms. Their achievement is worth more than a thousand battleships and ten thousand armies with banners. Their triumph declares that the American arms in a righteous cause can never be successfully resisted.

It is strange that so little is known of this great victory. Even Missourians, descendants of the men who won it, know little about it. They seem to have no proper conception of the fame won for them by their fathers. The victory of Sacramento, the success of Doniphan's expedition, is a heritage more valuable than kingdoms and powers and principalities. It ought to be the theme of the poets, the song of the daughters, the boast of the sons of old Missouri. It should become the pride and inspiration of the people of Missouri and some day it will.

In order that I might put into this work incidents connecting with the



present time the events of the remarkable campaign, I have sought all sources of information. That this book might be a living narrative I have cast about for accounts of those things which light up the scenes of those times with human interest and individual action. I have endeavored to have these incidents picture the men as they marched footsore and weary over desert wastes, as they bivouacked shelterless on the frozen ground under the cold and silent stars, as they starved and their hair and beards ran riot and their clothing fell to pieces, as they appeared on the battle field fighting like demons for their country which neglected them, and as citizens of a great state returning to the pursuits of peace and pleasures of home. It is a picture worthy of a great painter who will one day spring from the soil of old Missouri.

An army is a community under arms. Human ambitions are there more active and persistent than in times of peace in the quiet country side. As these men marched there occurred humorous incidents and tragedies as dark as midnight. Some cursed and others prayed. Some carried in their hearts fidelity to home and wife, while others were captivated by fair women encountered by the way. And it requires mention of those things to round out the record and make a picture upon which shall stand the proper lights and shades. I have done my best to secure and write them down."

In all the hardships, privations, battles and victories these men did their whole duty and are deserving of their full share of praise and honor for their achievement. The old soldiers used to love to tell of the only order issued by Captain Waldo at the battle of Sacramento, which was "Shoot low! Shoot low, boys! If you break one man's leg, it will take two men to carry him off."

When the war was declared against Mexico, Samuel C. Owens was keeping a general store at the southwest corner of the square in Independence, where the Chrisman-Sawyer Banking Company's building now stands, and was also engaged in freighting goods to Santa Fe. There were also other freighters and traders likewise engaged.

Col. Doniphan organized the teamsters of all the traders, aggregating about 200 men, and joined them into two companies and mustered them into the United States service. They were told to elect their own officers, which was done. Henry Skilman was elected Captain of one company; Edward J. Glasgow captain of the other and Owens was elected major. At the battle of Sacramento, these men all did service and in the charge upon the Mexican redoubts, Owens and his horse were killed. He was the

only man killed instantly in the whole American forces. There were 11 men wounded, three of whom died from their injuries. According to the official report, the forces of the United States totaled 924 men and six pieces of artillery. The Mexican forces had 4,224 men, 10 pieces of artillery. They lost 320 killed, 560 wounded and 72 prisoners, together with a vast quantity of provisions, \$6,000.00 in specie, 50,000 head of sheep, 1,500 head of cattle, 100 mules, 20 wagons and 25,000 pounds of ammunition. The battle was fought on Sunday, Feb. 28, 1847. On the third day of March the funeral services of Major Owens were performed in the Catholic church in Chihuahua with great show and pomp. The Mexican priest officiated on the occasion. His body was taken to the cemetery and buried with Masonic and martial honors.

Mr. Owens was one of the most prominent men in Jackson County. He was born in Green County, Kentucky, and came to this county before it was organized or the town laid out. He was the second clerk of the county court; Lillian W. Boggs, afterward governor of Missouri, was the first. Mr. Boggs did not serve long as clerk—the record does not show just how long. Mr. Boggs resigned and Mr. Owens was appointed clerk and served as such until 1842.

At the first sale of town lots in Independence, Mr. Owens bought the lot at the southeast corner of Osage and Lexington streets, the lot on which the Battery block is now situated. He built a large roomy, log house for his residence, and it was the center of gay gatherings for young and old. He had a daughter named Fannie, who was considered very beautiful. She being the only daughter, was the pet of the household and was badly spoiled as might be expected. When she was about 16 years of age, a young lawyer from Georgia came to Independence and opened a law office, and was said to be a bright fellow without character. He paid court to Fannie Owens. His attentions were discouraged by Mr. and Mrs. Owens. Believing herself imposed upon by her mother in a certain matter, she went to the office of Harper and said she was ready to get married. He took her in a buggy, intending to go to the office of James Bean, justice of the peace, at or near Blue Springs. They met Bean on the way and were married in the road, without alighting from the buggy, no license being necessary at that time. The Owens family were deeply chagrined and humiliated and efforts were made to have the rash act undone, but they came to nothing.

Mr. Owens took her to New York and tried to put her in a boarding school, thinking that a change of surroundings and acquaintances might



change her feelings toward Harper. When Mr. Owens attempted to enroll her in the school, she announced to the principal that she was a married woman and would not stay there. All efforts of her father to persuade her to stay were futile. When he found all of his efforts were in vain he returned home with her. When he decided to take her away, Harper protested vigorously. He told Mr. Owens, if he took Fannie away from him he would commit suicide and suiting the action to the words, drew a small pocket pistol, placed the muzzle to his head and drew the trigger. It snapped; Mr. Owens coolly walked to his desk and pulled out a pair of Colts dragoon revolvers and handed them to Harper, remarking, "Try one of these, I have killed buffalo with them on the plains, and have never known either one of them to snap yet. I think which one of either you take, will answer your purpose." Needless to say, Mr. Harper did not accept the offer. When Mr. Owen got back home, he sent for Harper and told him, "Here, take her, if you can do anything with her, it is a great deal more than I can, and you are perfectly welcome to her."

The following spring a young man named Meredith came from Baltimore to make a trip across the plains with Col. Owens for the benefit of his health, he being a sufferer from consumption. The journey could not begin until the grass was grown enough to furnish subsistence for the teams and in the meantime Meredith was an inmate of the Owens' home. A flirtation arose between him and Mrs. Harper. Harper became very jealous and determined to kill Meredith and laid plans to that end. He placed cards on the table in his office, which was on the second floor of a building fronting on the public square. He provided himself with two pistols and waited for Meredith to pass along the street. As he came by, Harper invited him into his office. A shot was heard immediately after he went into the room and men rushed up to see what was the trouble. They found the cards in disorder on the table, Meredith lying dead on the floor and a pistol by his side, and Harper standing over him with a smoking pistol in his hand. He said that he and Meredith had been playing a game of cards, over which they disagreed; that one word brought on another until a fierce quarrel resulted; that Meredith drew his pistol and he, Harper, shot him dead. Harper's story was not believed. There was no time for a quarrel between the time that Meredith entered the room, and the report of this pistol. Harper was arrested for murder and cast into jail. His wife stuck to him and aided him to escape; some say she furnished him saws and files, but Meredith T. Moore says she secured admittance to the jail and there changed clothes with him. He went down



into New Mexico and was gone a year or two, but finally was apprehended and brought back. In those days the law allowed a criminal more than one change of venue. Harper secured a change to Henry County and from thence to Platte County, where he was tried.

The trial was in November, 1847, Harpers attorneys were Colonel Doniphan, John Wilson and Silas H. Woodson, all great lawyers. They believed that it would be necessary to show criminal intimacy between Meredith and Mrs. Harper, the theory of self defense having been pretty well abandoned. In this matter the judge made a strange ruling. He held that the prosecution might show this criminal intimacy but that the defense could not show it as a justification for the murder. All of the attorneys were surprised at the ruling, and Colonel Doniphan is reported to have said that if this ruling was to stand he feared that it meant that Harper would hang.

When all the witnesses for the defense but one had been examined, the attorneys requested that court adjourn until the following day, as they desired to consult upon certain matters. It was then about four in the afternoon, but had the judge known that but one witness remained to be examined for the defense he would have insisted that the case go on; however, he adjourned.

In those days, lawyers made the rounds of the circuit, and it was customary for them to visit about at night with the local attorneys. When court adjourned, Woodson said to Wilson, that it would be necessary for him to make a night of it with the leading attorney for the prosecution. This Wilson did, and neither closed an eye in sleep; both appeared in court the following morning just about worn out. The defense put on the remaining witness, the only one by whom it was expected to show the matter of criminal intimacy. This was the only thing expected to be proven and under the ruling of the court it was impossible for them to show that—a desperate situation. Woodson conducted the examination; he questioned the witness at great length, leading up to the point he wished to make. When right at the point, and where the next question would have been the one and only one he really desired an answer to, he said to the prosecution “take the witness.”

The court and audience had hung breathless on the examination and there was disappointment that it ended in nothing. When the sleepy attorney took the witness, his first question was the very one the defense desired to ask but could not. But he saw his mistake instantly and said excitedly, “do not answer that question.” Then there was a scene. The

defense insisted that the witness be allowed to answer the question, while the prosecution insisted that while no answer had been given, it had the right to say none should be given. The jury was removed and the remainder of the day was consumed in arguments pro and con. The defense took the ground that by the ruling of the court, it could not ask the question, but that the prosecution could ask it and the prosecution having done so, it was the right of the defense that the question be answered. That the ruling of the court gave them that right. The court held that the question must be answered, which was done and the criminal relations shown. The jury brought in a verdict of "not guilty."

It was this family trouble that his friends decided was the cause of his reckless actions and cause of his death at the battle of Sacramento.

We have hitherto considered in what manner the troops under Col. Doniphan were conducted over the great solitudes to Santa Fe; how they invaded the snow-capped mountains in pursuit of the fearless Navajos; how General Kearney with a small force crossed the continent and held California in quiet possession; how Col. Price succeeded to the command of the troops in New Mexico; how Col. Doniphan invaded and conquered the state of Chihuahua and Durango; thence traversing extensive deserts, treeless, barren and waterless, oftentimes subsisting his army on half rations and less; and how, after indefinite suffering and toil, he arrived at the Gulf and sailed for New Orleans.

The Missourians were now permitted to turn over to the ordinance master, at New Orleans, the arms they had used on the expedition, and with which they had achieved signal victories. They were forthwith mustered for discharge and payment by Col. Churchill, which process was completed between the 22d and the 28th of June. Having received payment and an honorable discharge from the service, they departed to their respective homes in detached parties, each one now traveling according to his own convenience and being no longer subject to command. They generally arrived in Missouri about the 1st of July, having been absent thirteen months.

Anticipating the arrival of the returning volunteers, the generous citizens of St. Louis had made ample preparations to give them a hearty welcome, cordial reception and testify to them the esteem in which their services were held by their fellow citizens. But as the volunteer soldiers, who were to become citizens, returned in detached parties and were very anxious to visit their families and friends from whom they had so long been separated, they could not all be induced to remain and partake of the



proffered hospitality. However, the company under Capt. Hudson, having in charge the captured Mexican cannon, and near three hundred officers and privates of different companies, being in the city on the 2nd of July it was agreed that the formalities of the reception should be gone through with. Accordingly, the various military and fire companies of the city were paraded in full uniform; the people collected in great crowds, the Mexican cannon, the trophies of victory, were dragged along the streets, crowned with garlands; and an immense procession was formed, conducted by T. Grimsley, chief marshal, which, after a brief response from Lieutenant-colonel Mitchell, proceeded to Camp Lucas, where the Hon. T. H. Benton delivered to the returned volunteers and a concourse of more than seven thousand people, a most thrilling and eloquent address, recounting with astonishing accuracy and extraordinary minuteness the events of the great campaign.

When the honorable Senator concluded, Col. Doniphan was loudly and enthusiastically called to the stand, whereupon he rose and responded to a very chaste and modest, yet graphic address, in which he ascribed the great success and good fortune which continually attended him on his expedition rather to the bravery and conduct of his soldiers, than to his own generalship.

For months succeeding the return to the State of Missouri, volunteers, sumptuous dinners, banquets and balls, tables loaded with delicate viands and the richest wines were everywhere spread to do them honor as if thereby to compensate in some measure for past hardships and the immensity of toil and peril, which they had experienced in climbing over rugged, snow capped mountains; in contending with the overwhelming forces of the enemy; in enduring bitter cold, pinching hunger, burning thirst, incredible fatigue, and sleepless nights of watching and the bivouacking upon the waterless arid desert of Mexico. But their past dangers, both from the foe and the elements, were now soon forgotten amidst the kind caresses of friends and the cordial reception with which their fellow citizens continually greeted them. The maxim which has descended from former ages and which has met the sanction of all nations, that Republics are ungrateful, has not in this instance proved true; for there was now a campaign of feasting and honors.

On the 29th of July a public dinner was given by the citizens of Independence (Mo.) in honor of Colonel Doniphan, his officers and men, on which occasion the ladies, being anxious to testify their respect to the hero of Sacramento, and those who followed where he dared to lead, had pre-



pared the laurel wreath, in all ages the "gift of beauty to valor", for the victor's brow. After the welcoming speech by S. H. Woodson and a thrilling and stirring response by Col. Doniphan, Mrs. Buchanan, in behalf of the ladies, delivered from the stand in the presence of five thousand people the subjoined eloquent address:

"Respected Friends: Long had the world echoed to the voice of Fame when her brazen trumpet spoke of the glories of Greece and Rome. The sun looked proudly down upon Thermopyle when Leonidas had won a name bright and glorious as his own golden beams. The soft air of the Italian clime glowed, as the splendor of a Roman triumph flashed through the eternal city. But the mantle of desolation now wraps the smoldering pillars of Athens and of Rome, and fame deserting her ancient haunts, now fills our own fair land with the matchless deeds of her heroic sons. Like the diamond in the recesses of the mine, lay for centuries the land of Columbia. Like that diamond when art's transforming fingers have polished its peerless lustre, it now shines the most resplendent gem in the coronal of nations.

"The record of the Revolution, that dazzling picture in the Temple of History, presents us with the astonishing sight of men whose feet had never trodden the strict paths of military discipline, defying, conquering the trained ranks of the British army, whose trade is war. Nor did their patriotism, their energy die with the fathers of the Revolution—their spirit lives in their sons.

"The star which represents Missouri shone not on the banner that shadowed the venerated head of Washington. But the unrivaled deeds of the Missouri volunteers have added such brilliancy to its beams, that even he whose hand laid the corner stone of the temple of American liberty and placed on its finished shrines the rescued flag of his country, would feel proud to give the star of Missouri a place amidst the time honored, the far famed "old Thirteen". The Spartan, the Athenian, the Roman who offered on the altar of Mars the most brilliant sacrifices, were trained even from their infancy in all the arts of war. The service of the bloody god was to them the business of life, aye, even its pastime; their very dreams were full of the tumult of battle, but they who hewed asunder, with their good swords, the chains of British tyrant, and they who have rendered the names of Brazito and Sacramento, watch words to rouse the valor of succeeding ages, hurried from the quiet labors of the field, the peaceful halls of justice, the cell of the student, and the familiar hearth of home, to swell the ranks of the defenders of their native land.

“Volunteers of Missouri: In the history of your country, no brighter page can be found than that which records your own bright deeds. Many of you had never welcomed the morning light without the sunshine of mother’s smile to make it brighter; many of you had known the cares and hardships of life only in name; still you left the home of your childhood and encountered perils and sufferings that would make the cheek of a Roman soldier turn pale, and encountered them so gallantly that time in his vast calendar of centuries can show none more bravely, more freely born.

“We welcome you back to your home. The triumph which hailed the return of the Caesars, to whose war-chariot was chained the known world, is not ours to give, nor you need it. A prouder triumph than Rome could bestow is yours, in the undying fame of your proud achievements. But if the welcome of hearts filled with warm love and well merited admiration, hearts best known and longest tried, be a triumph, it is yours in the fullest extent.

“The torrent of eloquence to which you have just listened, the rich feast that awaits you, are the tributes of your own sex, but we, the fairer part of creation, must offer ours also.

“Colonel Doniphan: In the name of the ladies who surround me, I bestow on you this laurel wreath—in every age and every clime, the gift of beauty to valor. In placing it on the brow of him who now kneels to receive it, I place it on the brow of all who followed where, so brave, so dauntless a commander led. It is true that around the laurel wreath is twined every association of genius, glory and valor, but I feel assured that it was never placed on a brow more worthy to receive it than his on which it now rests—The Hero of Sacramento.”

It does not become the author to extol in unmeasured terms the gallant officers who led with such marvelous success, nor the brave men who bore with Roman fortitude and patience, the fatigues of the western expedition, beyond what every candid and generous mind will readily concede. Equally the conduct of both is worthy of encomium. They performed all, and more than all, the government expected at their hands. After the conquest of New Mexico, Gen. Kearny with one hundred men, completed an astonishing overland expedition to the shores of the Pacific, one thousand and ninety miles distant from Santa Fe. The great march was conducted over stony mountains, barren plains and inhospitable deserts.

Colonel Doniphan and his men scaled the granite heights of the Cordilleras, amidst fathoms of accumulated, eternal snows in the depth of win-



ter, when the wide waste of rocks and the horrid driving snow storms were their most relentless enemies. Having spent three months, and performed a campaign of 750 miles, in the most rugged and inhospitable regions of the continent, they returned to the valley of the Del Norte. Here they refresh themselves and recruit two days; after which they commence the grand march upon Chihuahua, and gain immortal renown on the tropical fields of Brazitos and Sacramento. The capital and the state, with two hundred thousand inhabitants, became a conquest to less than a thousand Missourians. This march was near six hundred miles through barren and waterless regions.

The nation almost trembled for the safety of the American column, thirty-five hundred strong with heavy artillery, when he set out from San Antonio on his intended expedition against Chihuahua. Many apprehended his complete overthrow and argued that it would result in a prodigal waste of means and useless and wanton sacrifice of human life—so small a force to march against so powerful and populous a state. That the stronghold of Central Mexico is in possession of the hero of Sacramento, with nine hundred and twenty-four Missourians and the American flag floats in triumph over the walls.

Leaving Chihuahua for more extended operations, and a new theatre of action, they move off through the states of Durango and Coahuila, traversing parched, arid, waterless wastes for more than six hundred miles, ready to succor General Taylor, if beleaguered in Saltillo, or to accompany him over the Central Desert in his contemplated descent upon San Louis de Potosi, having previously sent fourteen express men on a most perilous enterprise to learn the general's wishes.

Their services being now no longer required, the commander-in-chief dispatches them to the United States by way of Matamoras and the Mexican Gulf. They sail for New Orleans, where they are discharged. They return to Missouri from the eastward graced with the trophies of the vanquished foe, having in 12 months performed a magnificent circuit of more than 3,500 miles by land, and 2,500 by water, with the loss of less than one hundred of their original number.

The expedition of Cyrus against his brother, Artaxerxes, and the retreat of the ten thousand Greeks, famous throughout all times, conducted by Xenophon and Cherisopus, forms the only parallel to Col. Doniphan's expedition recorded in history. In fifteen months Cyrus and Xenophon conducted this expedition about 3,450 English miles, with the loss of several thousand brave men, and finally return to Greece, possessing nothing



save their lives and their arms. In thirteen months, Col. Doniphan and his Missourians accomplish a similar expedition (except as to its objects) of more than 5,500 miles, returning decorated with the spoils of war and meeting with the hearty approval of their countrymen.

The distance over which Gen. Kearny marched, was perhaps, greater than that over which Col. Doniphan passed, but the former conducted an army only to California, returning privately, while the latter commanded and provided for his men, and that too, without funds, until they were disbanded at New Orleans.

But where are the permanent, the beneficial results of this wonderful, this almost fabulous expedition of Col. Doniphan? the utilitarian will inquire. The facts, that the Chihuahua market, which the war had closed, was reopened for the admittance of several hundred thousand dollars' worth of American goods, which otherwise would have been sacrificed, to the ruin of the merchants, if not indemnified by the government; that new and more desirable commercial relations will henceforth assuredly spring up between Chihuahua and the western states, and on a safer and more equitable basis; that the insults and wrongs which had been repeatedly heaped on American citizens, and the decimation of the Mier prisoners, were now completely avenged by the defeat of a haughty and supercilious foe; that great light has been thrown on the political condition and geographical position of central Mexico, which had hitherto been but little explored by Americans; that the Mexican people have now been taught something of the strength of their northern neighbors; that they have acquired some knowledge of the effect of free institutions, liberty and general education upon mankind, and that all central Mexico was thereby neutralized during the war, will sufficiently answer the important inquiry.

Thus terminated the most extraordinary and wonderful expedition of the age, attended throughout by the most singular good fortune, conducted under the auspices of Col. Doniphan, who has been very justly styled the Great Military Pedestrian, the Victor and Diplomatist.

## CHAPTER XII

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### PIONEER CHURCHES

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FIRST CHURCH, SIX MILE CHURCH—CONSTITUTION—"RULES OF DECORUM"—CHRISTIAN CHURCH ORGANIZED—FIRST PASTOR—FIRST METHODIST CHURCH—BUILDING COMPLETED—FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN—FIRST CATHOLIC CHURCH—METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH—OAKLAND CHURCH—MORMONS IN JACKSON COUNTY.

The first church organization in Jackson County was known as the Six Mile church. Unfortunately all of the early records are lost except an old yellow piece of paper on which is written their constitution as follows:

The following is the Constitution of Six Mile church: On the third Saturday in June, 1825, the Baptist Church of Christ at Six Mile was constituted by Elder William Thorp in counsel with brother Jeremiah Hall, Abraham Grooms and Abraham Creek on the following articles of faith.

1st. We believe in one only true and living God, a trinity of persons in the Godhead, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and these three are one.

2nd. We believe that the scriptures of the old and Testament are the word of God and the only rule of faith and practice.

3rd. We believe in the fall of Adam and that all of his posterity fell in him and were made sinners. We believe in the corruption of human nature and the impotency of man to recover himself by his own free will or ability.

4th. We believe that sinners are justified in the right of God by the righteousness of Jesus Christ, imputed to them and that God's works are the fruits of faith and follow after justification and are the evidences of our gracious state.



OAKLAND CHURCH.



OAK GROVE HIGH SCHOOL.





5th. We believe that the saints shall preserve in grace and not one of them be finally lost.

6th. We believe there will be a resurrection of the dead and a general judgment and the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

7th. We believe the visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful persons.

8th. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the church and that the government thereof is with the body.

9th. We believe that water baptism and the Lord's supper are evidences of the gospel and are to be continued until the second coming.

10th. We believe that true believers are the only fit subjects and immersions the only gospel mode of baptism.

11th. We believe that none but regularly baptised members have a right to commune at the Lord's table.

12th. We believe that the Lord's day ought to be observed, and set apart for the worship of God and that no work or worldly business ought to be done or transacted thereon works of piety and necessity only excepted.

*Rules of Decorum:* 1st. All church meetings shall be opened and closed by prayer. 2nd. It shall be the duty of the church to appoint their moderator. 3rd. It shall be the duty of the moderator to invite all visiting brothers and sisters of sister churches to seats with us and to aid us with our counsel but not to vote. 4th. It shall be the duty of the church to open her door for reception of members. 5th. The reference shall be attended to if any. 6th. All motions made and seconded shall be attended to unless withdrawn by the person who made it. 7th. But no person shall speak at a time who shall rise and address the moderator and brethren. 8th. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted until he has given his views on the subject. 9th. No person shall be allowed to make any remarks on the slips, failures or imperfections of those who have spoken before them. 10th. No person shall be allowed to whisper or interrupt in time of church meeting. 11th. Reception of members shall be unanimous, choosing of pastors, preachers or deacons and dismissal shall be by a three-fourths vote. All other matters shall go by a majority. 12th. We believe it to be our duty to own each other as brother and sister and any other title or appellation is improper. 13th. Any member who may absent himself on Saturday of three meetings in succession shall be called to account for his reasons and dealt with as the church may think proper. 14th. This church considers it disorder for

its members to attend dancing parties or to have them at their homes. 15th. Any person who may violate these rules may be reprov'd as the church may think proper. 16th. These rules may be amended or added to as the church thinks proper.

Their first meeting house was a log structure built about one-half mile southwest of where the Salem church now stands. The first record that can be found is of date Nov., 1854, and upon that date is given some of the names of the members as follows: David Bittle, John B. Haralson, Lewis Franklin, Daniel Cussenberry, Jesse Morrow, John Potts, Wm. A. Saunders, Wm. H. Franklin, Joshua Petty, John W. Black, Jno. H. Ott, N. M. Smith, Wm. Haralson, Jno. R. Franklin, James Robins, John Hightower, Joshua Hightower, and their families. Their first regular pastor was Joab Powell, a strong man mentally and physically, but almost totally uneducated, but he seemed to be the man for the place and exercised a wonderful power for good among those early pioneers. At that time he was called a primitive or "Hardshell" Baptist. He was a man of the Billie Sunday stamp and talked straight from the shoulder. He held camp-meetings in different parts of the country before there were any church buildings and many are the stories told of his saying and doings. He went to Oregon and continued his preaching. When the split came in the Baptist church he went with the missionary branch.

Martin Rice, the old poet of Van Buren township, who died a few years ago, published a book called "Rural Rhymes", in one of those poems pays tribute to his old friend Powell as follows:

"That old fashioned preacher—I'll never forget him,  
But well I remember his kindness to me.  
Full well I remember the first time I met him  
When I was a boy in East Tennessee.  
But now I'm old, many years have passed o'er me  
And he is asleep on a far distant shore,  
But oft in fancy I see him before me  
As I saw him in youth, in the good days of yore,  
That fearless old preacher, the plain simple preacher,  
The old fashioned preacher of long, long ago."

The first Christian church in Jackson County was organized on the 4th day of July, A. D. 1835. The first church building was erected on a lot at the northeast corner of Lynn and Walnut streets, Independence.



In a little time-worn book now owned by O. C. Sheley, Jr., we find the records as kept by those old pioneers.

They were then called "Campbellites" from the fact they had accepted his version of the Bible and the term was used in a spirit of derision for a great many years. They occupied that little frame building until the year A. D. 1854, when a nice brick church house was built on the northeast corner of Main and Short streets. In turn that building was used until A. D. 1909, when a lot was bought at the northeast corner of Kansas and Pleasant streets, where an elegant up-to-date church was built at a cost of about fifty-five thousand dollars. Unfortunately that building was destroyed by fire about three years ago. Steps were immediately taken to rebuild, but owing to the World War and the taking over of all the steel plants of the country by the government for the use of the army and navy, work was stopped until the fall of 1919, when work was commenced on the building and the congregation soon hope to get back into their own building. Since that one church was organized with only a handful of members, the denomination has made great gains both in church buildings and membership. There are now something like forty churches in the county, twenty-seven of them in Kansas City alone.

The first pastor of the Christian church in Independence was Elder Francis R. Palmer. He owned and lived on a fine farm about one mile south of the present city limits. He preached for them almost continually until about A. D. 1860. Owing to the infirmities of old age he resigned. Then Alexander Procter was employed, coming to the church Sept. 1, 1860. Few men have left more impression on the people of Independence than Alexander Procter. He was a Kentuckian by birth but came to Missouri with his father in 1836. His early desire was for a good education, so that he could become a preacher. He worked hard on the farm with his father and saved money enough to take him through Bethany College. He graduated in A. D. 1848 as honor man of his class and was ordained as a minister. He first had charge of the Christian church at Lexington, Mo., then at Glasgow until 1856; then at St. Louis until 1860. He preached for the Independence church almost all the time for forty years, except a short time during the Civil War. About the close of the Civil War he and Prof. Geo. S. Bryant kept a school for both boys and girls. He was a great teacher and no one could come under his teaching without absorbing a great deal of his wisdom. He had a splendid knack of imparting his knowledge to the student in such a way that it was never forgotten. During the dark days of the Civil War he was the friend and counselor of all.

He knew no creed but ministered to all in relieving the poor. He told me that once during the war Dr. Waldo came to him and slipping a hundred dollars into his hand said, "Alec, use this in helping the poor and needy. You know who needs it better than I do. Such was the confidence and love that people had for him. He bought a nice tract of about fifteen acres of land just west of Crysler avenue on Electric street and built a nice home and there he spent his leisure time, among his fruits and flowers of which he was very fond. His home was surrounded with a great variety of the most beautiful flowers that he could get, all planted and cultivated with his own hands. He died in A. D. 1906, loved and respected by every one that knew him, "Both Jew and Gentile."

The first Methodist church organized in the county was at Independence in A. D. 1835, by J. P. Hulse. The charter members were Henry Ruby, Rebecca Ruby, John McMurry, Jane McMurry, Smallwood Noland, Nancy Noland, Angeline Noland, Jesse Noland, Reuben Wallace and Mary Wallace.

The first church building was commenced in 1837, but was not fully completed until about 1840. The membership soon outgrew that building and in A. D. 1859 a new brick structure that is still standing, was built at the northwest corner of Spring street and Maple avenue. During the Civil War the church was rent asunder over politics and after the war those members that took the side of the north undertook and did take possession of the building excluding all others from any and participation in the use of the church although a very few of those claimants had contributed anything in its construction. The matter was taken into court, where finally the rightful owners obtained possession of the church and ground and reorganized their organization and that church has exercised a splendid influence for good ever since.

The first Presbyterian church (known as the Old School), organized in Jackson County, was at Independence, Nov. 21, 1841, by the Rev. J. L. Yantes and Arthur G. Young, of Lexington, Mo. The charter members were James Patton, Joseph O. Boggs, Cincinnatus W. Boyers, Mrs. Mary Patton, Mrs. Sarah Irwin, Mrs. Henrietta Mauir, Mrs. Elizabeth Lee, Miss Nancy M. Patton and Mrs. Phoebe Boggs. No officers were elected for this congregation until Nov. 4, 1842, when C. W. Boyers and J. O. Boggs were elected and ordained elders for the congregation. They bought a lot at the southwest corner of Lexington and Osage streets and built a two story brick house, the lower rooms of which were used for many years for school purposes. It was used for church purposes until



the congregation outgrew it. Then a lot was purchased at the northwest corner of Lexington and Spring streets and the present handsome residence was erected and is still in use.

The first Cumberland Presbyterian church organized in Jackson County was at Independence, in the spring of A. D. 1832 and the following were the charter members: Gan Johnson, Wm. W. Kavanaugh and family, Mrs. Margaret B. Chambers, John Lewis and wife and Samuel D. Lucas and wife. The Rev. W. W. Kavanaugh was the first pastor. This congregation had a camp meeting once a year and held services in a grove for two or three weeks at a time. Families would come for miles and bring their cooking utensils and bedding with them and stay the whole time. The camping place was situated just north of where the present Sniabar road crosses Crysler avenue extended south. It was known for years as the Old Camp Ground long after camp meetings had fallen into disuse.

The first Catholic church built in Jackson County was at 11th and Pennsylvania streets, Kansas City, Mo., and was built of logs and was about 18 x 30 feet in dimensions. Father Roux, a Frenchman, was the first pastor in charge. His parishoners were almost all French-Canadians. The first Catholic church built in Independence was in 1848 and the Rev. Bernard Donnelly was its first pastor. The first services were held in a small building that had once been used for a blacksmith shop. Like all the other churches it was soon outgrown and the present commodious building was erected just at the close of the Civil War.

#### OAKLAND CHURCH, METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.

By Mrs. Ottis Adams, Grain Valley, Mo.

For a number of years following the Civil War, the citizens of the country were struggling to regain what they had lost. Their homes, for the most part, had been rebuilt, and community life developed anew, neither churches or school houses were very numerous, but the latter being more so were used for religious purposes and social activities. The places where preaching services were held regularly were far apart. Isolated communities were often favored by visiting ministers, because settlers were few and public buildings far apart, and communities naturally larger than now. Before Oakland church was built the closest churches were Pink Hill and Green's Chapel, these being farther than convenient a class was organized at a school house in 1880. About this time the



people of the community began to discuss the advantage of a church building; sentiment in favor of the undertaking grew until 1881, when John Vandyke gave an acre of ground, and the building was started at once. The major part of the work was done by volunteer labor, nearly every one, regardless of their religious beliefs, gave gladly. Thomas Tucker was a carpenter in charge. Rev. T. D. Payne, the first pastor, who was then at Pink Hill, helped to erect the building, and it was interesting and quite a privilege to have heard him speak at Oakland recently, at a home-coming event, on the early history of the church. He has since passed to his reward.

The church was completed in 1882, with Rev. Wagoner pastor. By the latter part of 1883 all indebtedness was paid. Rev. C. C. Woods, presiding elder of the Kansas City district, preaching the dedication sermon on the fourth Sunday in November of that year. Several names were suggested, but the one chosen, Oakland, was offered by Mrs. Julia Bowling, now of Independence, Mo., the only living charter member.

As time passed an earnest effort was made to enlist each successive generation in the work of the Master. Rev. J. A. Swift was pastor from 1892 to 1894. In 1901 the church was transferred from the Kansas City to the Lexington district, and the removal from Pink Hill to Buckner circuit, where the parsonage is now located. This change was made during the four years pastorate of Rev. Hedges.

During the winter of 1902 Rev. J. A. Jared held a successful revival meeting, following which Chapter 4274 Epworth League was organized with 34 members. It is a splendid organization that meets the social needs of the young people of the church, as well as a medium to awaken religious interest. This church has an enrollment of between 60 and 70 members, and no longer suspends through the winter months, as in years past. The present pastor is Rev. H. S. Dubois.

The church, with the addition of a vestibule and small extension, was built through the efforts of the Aid Society, and also improved grounds, to the extent of concrete walks, rock posts and retaining wall, which won for it, recently, a first prize for best kept country church in the county.

The service flag, with 20 stars, representing 20 lives of our boys who so nobly answered the call to the colors in the World War, is the pride of the congregation. The stars of gold represent Charles and Henry Spencer and Perry Cartmill. The following are the names and order as they left for the training camps: Willie Tucker, Claude Hodges, Terrence Love, Ernest Owings, Walter Owings, Floyd Kettelman, Theodore Hoene,

Keith Adams, Harry Spencer, Owen Steward, Delbert Campbell, Clifton Johnson, Tony Johnson, Emmit Doane, James Rolen, Warren Rolen, Wilber Biddle, Aaron Duane, Perry Cartmill and Charles Spencer.

#### THE "MORMONS" IN JACKSON COUNTY.

(By Bishop Orson F. Whitney, Author of "Whitney's History of Utah.")

Jackson County, Missouri, is the place for the City of Zion, the New Jerusalem, to be built by a redeemed and gathered Israel preparatory to the second coming of the Savior. So taught Joseph Smith, the first Prophet-President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. As early as the summer of 1831 the Prophet, then residing at Kirtland, Ohio, sent a colony into western Missouri to begin the work of preparation. That colony grew until it numbered about fifteen hundred souls.

Jackson County was on the western fringe of the Nation, and most of its inhabitants were from the South. Lands were purchased by the new-comers in and around Independence, "the center place" for the proposed city, with its sacred Temple. There and at other points they built houses and cultivated their farms and fields. At Independence they established a store, set up a printing press, and issued a periodical, "The Evening and Morning Star." By means of this publication and the preaching of their ministers, the religious tenets and social views of the "Mormon" people were more or less widely disseminated:

The motives of these colonists were misinterpreted by many of the older settlers, who, misled by false reports, actually feared that it was the purpose of the Prophet's followers to forcibly possess themselves of the whole country, to unite with the Indians across the border, and drive the "Gentiles" (non-Mormons) from the land. There was no foundation for such a fear. According to the Book of Mormon—a history of and a prophecy concerning America,—God had given into the hands of the "Gentiles" this land; had inspired Columbus to discover it, the Pilgrims and others to people it, and the Patriots of the Revolution to win its independence and maintain it as a land of liberty. So many of the "Gentiles" as would embrace the Gospel were to assist modern Israel—the Latter-Day Saints—in building up Zion, and were to share in her glory; the red men to have the same privileges upon like conditions. The Saints were under sacred obligations to show good will to the people around them, to deal fairly with all men, and honestly purchase every inch of ground necessary for the rearing of the New Jerusalem.



In addition to the charge of "tampering with the Indians," the new settlers were accused of being Abolitionists—anti-slavery agitators. This accusation, though it had nothing to support it but the fact that they were mostly from the Eastern and Northern states, was alone sufficient, wherever credited, to blacken them in the minds of the Missourians of that period. Religious and political rancor made the most of these and other canards, to the injury of a peaceable, moral and industrious community.

In April, 1833, meetings were held to consider the most effective means of ridding the country of the unpopular "Mormons." The first attempts were unsuccessful, but in the latter part of July a mass meeting of 500 convened, and a declaration embodying similar charges to those mentioned was unanimously adopted. It was resolved that the "Mormons" be required to leave the county at once, and that in future no "Mormon" be permitted to settle there.

The local authorities of the Mormon Church, having been informed of this decision, asked for sufficient time to fully consider the matter and consult with their leaders in Ohio. The answer to this request was a furious outburst of mob violence. The residence of William W. Phelps, editor of "The Evening and Morning Star," was assaulted, and his house razed to the ground; his family, including his wife with a sick child in her arms, being thrust into the street. The household furniture, books, etc., were destroyed or carried away by the mob, and the printing press, type and other materials likewise confiscated. Phelps himself was captured by the marauders, but escaped through the crowd. The church store was looted and its goods strewn in the streets. The crowning outrage was upon the persons of Bishop Edward Partridge and Elder Charles Allen, who were taken to the public square of Independence, partly stripped of their clothing, and covered with tar and feathers. Mixed with the tar was a powerful acid which severely burned their flesh.

Three days later the mass meeting again convened, this time in greater numbers than before. They were now a little more reasonable in their demands. The result was a mutual compact, by the terms of which one-half of the "Mormon" population was to be permitted to remain in the county until January 1, 1834, and the other half until the first of April. It was agreed that the "Star" should not again be published, and that "Mormon" immigration to that part should immediately cease. In return for these concessions, a pledge was given that no further attacks should be made upon them.



Two months had not elapsed before the mob resumed hostilities. The persecuted people appealed to the Governor of the State, Daniel Dunklin, asking for military aid and protection while seeking redress in the courts. The Governor declined to give the aid requested, but promised the petitioners that if they failed to obtain a proper execution of the laws through the courts, he would take steps for their relief. Thus encouraged, they instituted legal proceedings against their oppressors.

It was as the application of a lighted match to a mine. Another explosion of mob fury followed; "Mormon" houses were unroofed, men whipped and pelted with stones, and women and children driven screaming into the wilderness. Every peaceful effort to obtain justice having proved futile, the "Mormons" armed themselves and prepared to resist the outlaws who came against them. In a battle that ensued several men were wounded and one or two killed on either side. Lieutenant-Governor Lilburn W. Boggs ordered out the militia to suppress the alleged insurrection. Colonel Thomas Pitcher was placed in command. He required the "Mormons" to lay down their arms and deliver up, to be tried for murder, certain men who had taken part in the battle. The rest of the community were to leave the county forthwith. His first two behests having been obeyed, Pitcher enforced the third demand at the point of the bayonet. Armed bands, including the rioters who had caused the trouble, ranged in every direction, bursting into houses, terrifying women and children, and threatening with death the defenseless people if they did not instantly flee. Out upon the bleak prairies, along Missouri's bank, chilled and drenched by November winds and rains, wandered forth the exiles.

But they did not utterly despair. Conscious of their innocence, they continued to sue for protection and redress of grievances. The Governor, judges and other State officials were appealed to, and even the President of the United States was memorialized in relation to the tragic affair.

Governor Dunklin, a humane, well-meaning man, doubtless did all that he felt capable of doing in behalf of the homeless fugitives. He held that he could not lawfully extend military aid to maintain them in possession of their homes; but at his instance a court of inquiry was held and Colonel Pitcher was court-martialed. It was decided that there had been no "Mormon" uprising, and that the calling out of the troops and the enforced surrender of arms by citizens defending themselves against unrighteous aggression, was therefore unnecessary and unlaw-

ful. The Governor commanded the militia officers to restore the arms to the rightful owners; but this order was ignored.

REORGANIZED CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS.  
(By Walter W. Smith.)

During the month of May, 1820, Joseph Smith, Jr., a lad of 15 years, announced that while praying in the forest, near his father's home, in Seneca County, New York, he was visited by two heavenly personages, who informed him that the time for the restoration of the gospel, and the organization of the church after the new testament pattern, was near at hand. In accordance with this announcement, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was regularly organized, on April 6, 1830, at Fayette, Seneca County, New York. Joseph Smith, Jr., Oliver Cowdery, Hyrum Smith, Peter Whitmer, Jr., Samuel H. Smith and David Whitmer being the charter members. Joseph Smith, Jr., and Oliver Cowdery were chosen by them as the first ministers of the church, according to the call they had previously received.

The infant church was scarcely a year old when its first missionaries reached Independence, in Jackson County, Mo. Oliver Cowdery, with Parley P. Pratt, Peter Whitmer, Jr., Ziba Peterson and Frederick G. Williams, M. D., arrived in Independence in the early part of 1831, as missionaries to the Indians. They began their work among the Indians on the frontier at once, also preaching often among the settlers of Independence and Jackson County. They were favorably received among the white settlers, but were soon denied access to the Indian country. They were pleased with the country, and, believing it a good place in which to work, sent to Mr. Pratt back to Kirtland, Ohio, which was then the headquarters of the new church, to report their labors and the prospects of the new country.

About the middle of July following, Joseph Smith, Jr., with several other elders, arrived in Independence. Shortly after their arrival a council was held, when it was decided that the country afforded splendid opportunity for settlement, as most of the land belonged to the public domain, and was subject to homestead and pre-emption. The advantages and opportunities of the country were made known to the members of the church in the eastern states, and at once a large number of church people began settling in Independence and other parts of Jackson County. During the latter part of July, 1831, the first permanent settlement of Latter Day Saints was made in Kaw township, about 12 miles southwest



The generation that witnessed these troubles has long since passed away, and a wonderful change of sentiment toward the Latter-Day Saints has taken place in Jackson County and elsewhere. In 1833 it was as much as a "Mormon's" life was worth to be seen in that part of Missouri. In 1893 the head of the "Mormon" church, President Wilford Woodruff, visiting Independence with a large party from Utah, was given a kind and cordial welcome. The church now has a mission headquarters at Independence, established in February, 1907, with Elder Samuel O. Bennion in charge. Grounds near the old Temple lot have been purchased; a handsome chapel has been erected; and where the "Evening and Morning Star" was suppressed by mob violence, now flourishes "The Liahona," a bi-weekly magazine, issued by Zion's Printing and Publishing Company, under the combined auspices of the church's several United States missions. The best of relations exist between the present-day "Mormons" and non-"Mormons" of Jackson County.

of Independence. This neighborhood was known as the Colesville settlement, because most of the settlers were from Colesville, Boone County, N. Y. This was the first congregation of Latter Day Saints organized in Jackson County. They seem never to have built a church house, but worshiped in a grove during the summer, and in dwelling houses during the winter. Newel Knight was pastor of this congregation for some time; who, if others, occupied as pastors, we are not informed. The first church conference held in Jackson County met with this congregation, in the home of Joshua Lewis, Aug. 4, 1831. This congregation was maintained until the church was expelled from the county.

On Aug. 3, 1831, the church lot at Independence (known as the temple lot) was dedicated, and immediately thereafter work was begun on the first Latter Day Saint church building in Jackson County. It was a large log meeting house, located on the Westport road, within a few feet of the intersection of Union and West Lexington streets, on property now owned by Mr. Walter Page. A part of this building remained standing until 1883, when it was removed by Mr. F. C. Warnky to make room for the dwelling now occupied by Mr. Page. Bishop Edward Partridge was the first minister of this congregation. He was succeeded by Elder Daniel Stanton and others. This church grew and became a very important congregation, as many church activities centered here. It had a very prosperous experience until the church was expelled from the county.

There were only the two congregations organized during the year 1831, but with the spring of 1832, there was an influx of settlers from



the New England States, New York and Ohio. The latter part of April Joseph Smith, Jr., Bishop Newel K. Whitney, of Kirtland, Ohio, and several others arrived in Independence. A conference of the ministers and the churches was held, on the first of May; at which arrangements were completed for the establishment of a publishing house in Independence, the printing of a monthly paper, the publication of church books and other literature. W. W. Phelps and Company was the style of the publishing firm, and engaged in this publishing enterprise, as editors were William W. Phelps, Oliver Cowdery and John Whitmer. This firm issued from its press in June, the first number of "The Evening and Morning Star." The first paper published in Jackson County, likewise the first paper published by the Latter Day Saints. This paper was published in a brick building on the southeast corner of Lexington and Liberty streets. It continued for 14 numbers, until the publishing plant was destroyed by a mob and the Saints were expelled from Jackson County.

During the summer of 1832 a congregation was organized in the neighborhood of the Big Blue Ferry, near where Independence avenue now crosses the Blue River at Sheffield. This congregation had for its pastor Bishop John Corrill. Another church was organized about three miles west of the Blue in what was called the Whitmer settlement, over which David Whitmer presided. Eight or ten miles southwest of Independence, another congregation was organized during this summer, called the Big Blue Church, Wheeler Baldwin was its first pastor, and after him Thomas B. Marsh. Lyman Wight presided over a small congregation about six miles southwest of Independence. At the November conference of the churches in Jackson County, reports showed there were 830 members in the several churches.

During the fall of 1832 there began to be friction between the new settlers and the old inhabitants. The differences grew largely out of the fact that the early settlers of Jackson County were almost entirely from Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia, with a few scattering families from the Carolinas. They were slave owners and belonged to the old cavalier stock which had settled Virginia and the South; while the Latter Day Saints were almost entirely from New England and the north central states, and were Abolitionists, descended from old Puritan stock, with its antipathy for rank and privileged classes. It was a revival of the age old feud between Puritan and Cavalier, which had rent England under the Stuarts and Cromwell, and was destined to rend the United States in the great Civil War, some three decades later. Religious prejudice

and sectional hatred was fanned into a fury until eventually violence broke out between the Saints and their neighbors, during the month of July, 1833. The Saints being fewer in number, and less firmly attached to the soil, since they were the last comers, were driven out of Jackson County in November, 1833. At this time there were ten churches in the county, with an aggregate of 1,200 members.

After the Saints were driven out of Jackson County, they settled first in Clay County, and later they settled and organized Caldwell County, from which the same kind of friction caused their expulsion. In 1839 and 1840 they settled in Nauvoo, Hancock County, Ill., where they established a prosperous community. In 1844 Joseph Smith and his brother, Hyrum, were assassinated. Following this the church fell into disorder, and was torn by many schisms, and the claims of aspirants for leadership.

During the year 1852 a number of churches which had been established during the life-time of Joseph Smith, began the work of reorganizing the church, on the basis of the doctrine and practice of the early church. To this standard was gathered many of those who had been discouraged by the false teachings of aspiring leaders.

The elders of the reorganized church visited and preached in Jackson County as early as 1871; but it was not until May 25, 1873, that another congregation was organized. Forty years after the Saints had been expelled, ten members met at the court house and organized the Independence church, with Henry Etzenhouser as pastor. Meetings were held in the court house, in halls, and in private houses until the summer of 1881, when the brick church on East Lexington street was completed. The general conference of the church met in this church in 1882, which continued to be the church home of the Independence Saints until 1888, when the stone church on West Lexington street and Bowen was opened. The general conference convened here on that year. The stone church has continued to be the parent church in Independence to the present time. Four other congregations have been organized from this body, the Second church on Delaware and South avenue, Walnut Park church on Pearl street and Alton avenue, Enoch Hill church on Osage street south of South boulevard, and Liberty Street church on North Liberty street and Nettleton.

In 1916 the city of Independence was organized into a separate conference, with Walter W. Smith as president, and pastor of the stone church. He has had as assistant pastors, Israel A. Smith, J. August

Koehler and Roy V. Hopkins. Mark H. Siegfried was chosen bishop of the conference, and has been subsequently succeeded by Bishop John A. Becker. All of the churches conduct regular services on Sunday, maintaining Sunday schools, young people's meetings and kindred church activities.

On February 27, 1878, a congregation was organized in Kansas City, meeting at Sixteenth and Grand avenue. Francis M. Sheehy was chosen pastor. This congregation subsequently built a church on Troost avenue, south of Nineteenth street, and still later moved to Twenty-fourth and Wabash avenue, and finally located at Ninth and Lydia streets, and has since been known as Central church. From this parent organization several congregations have been organized in Kansas City. The Second Kansas City church, at Twenty-third and Holly; the Third church, in the East Bottoms, since removed to Thirteenth and Bennington; the Fourth church, at Forty-third and Garfield; the Montgall church, at 417 North Montgall; Mount Washington church, Independence avenue and Brookside, and Englewood church, on Wayne avenue. In 1916 the Kansas City churches, including those on the Kansas side, were organized into a conference, with Joseph A. Tanner as president, and pastor of the Central church. He has as assistant pastors Seth Sandy and Thomas J. Elliott. Frederick B. Blair is bishop of the conference. There are three other churches in Jackson County, one at Lees Summit, organized in 1891; and one at East Independence, organized in 1918; and one at Grandview, organized in 1916.



## CHAPTER XIII

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### STEAMBOAT DAYS

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FROM 1856 TO 1860 THE ZENITH OF STEAMBOATING ON THE MISSOURI—CARGOES  
—AVERAGE CAPACITY—BOATS IN SERVICE—FASTEST BOATS—EXCURSION  
PARTIES—DEMAND FOR STEAMBOAT TRANSPORTATION.

During the period from 1856 to 1860, 56 steamers or more were plying between St. Louis and Kansas City, some of them going as far up as Fort Benton. A few of these were only freighters, but some 50 odd were veritable floating palaces and generally came up the river swarming with passengers and loaded to the guards with merchandise. Sometimes a boat would be all day discharging its freight, and what piles would be deposited along the rubble-paved levee. Hundreds of barrels, piles of boxes, hogsheads, crates, household goods, stoneware, coal, charcoal, bacon and grain. Barrels of molasses from the refineries in St. Louis; hogsheads of sugar from the mills in New Orleans; crates of queensware from Liverpool, England; boxes of drygoods from New York, Baltimore and St. Louis; of glass and window glass from the factories at Wheeling and Pittsburgh; packages of chinaware from Limoges and Dresden; barrels of whisky from the distilleries in Kentucky and Tennessee; casks of wine and brandy from France, Spain and Germany; bags of coal from Pennsylvania and the canal banks of Kentucky; tons of stoneware from Arrow Rock, Missouri, and Liverpool, Ohio; household goods from everywhere; grain and bacon picked up here and there; rice from South Carolina in tierces, and articles of miscellany that would make one's head swim if an attempt were made to enumerate them.

The average carrying capacity per vessel was about 500 tons, and the number of passengers from 50 to 300, and good it was to hear the

whistle of the oncoming leviathan, knowing that loved and long expected ones were aboard, or that merchandise anxiously awaited would soon be ready for your dray.

As near as I can recall the following boats were in service in 1858: Meteor, Esmerelda, Martha Jewell, Hiawatha, Rob-Roy, Iriquois, Peerless, Twilight, Belle of the West, Emma, D. A. January, Sioux City, Joe Kinney, Sam Gatey—government, Isabella, War Eagle, Kate Howard, Joe Howard, Hollander, Bonita, Iatan, Polar Star, E. A. Ogden, Ben W. Lewis, Cataract, Jas. H. Lucas, A. B. Chambers, John Warner, Alonzo Child, Reindeer, Hannibal, Antelope, Rowena, Hesperian, Platte Valley, Black Hawk, Florilda, Southerner, Omaha, New Lucy, Kate Kinney, Silver Heels, Minnehaha, Morning Star, Southwester, Star of the West, J. H. Oglesby, St. Paul, St. Mary, Mineola, North Star, Northener, Keokuk, Natchez, Miami, Kaw Valley, Arabia and T. H. McGill.

The fastest of these was the James H. Lucas, which held the record for the quickest time from St. Louis to St. Joseph. In the early fifties the Polar Star, with a bow like a knife, and paddle wheels low set in the water, engines quick in stroke and powerful, a load well bestowed so that the stern sat low, and the bow raised like a bird just starting in flight, had made a phenomenal run from St. Louis to St. Joseph. So delighted were her St. Louis owners that they had old Jim Bridger, the famous scout, trapper, guide and explorer, to secure for them the finest pair of elk horns to be found in the upper Missouri valley. Bridger delivered the horns and there was a great blow out when these were presented to the proud captain of the Polar Star. Tacked on to the horns was a sterling silver tablet, upon which was engraved the record of the Star's run, and following that, this couplet:

"The fleetest elk hath shed them from his brow;  
Fit emblem, Polar Star, to deck thy prow."

About this time the James H. Lucas came into commission and its captain, having in one or two runs arrived at the conclusion that his boat had some speed, made up his mind to try and win those horns. Abiding his time until the stage of water was just right he carefully adjusted his up steam cargo—for upon a proper loading a boat largely depended its ease of motion—he stored his lower decks with much rich pine, several barrels of rosin, a few tons of fat pork, and started forth. The swift strokes of the buckets churned the river into foam while the shapely bow cut and turned the water like a plowshare. The Lucas made the same stops the Star had made and remained as long at each landing.





STEAMBOATING ON THE MISSOURI IN THE FIFTIES.





When she pulled in at Kansas City she had gained a little on the Star's time, but not enough for safety, so the stokers chucked in more rosin and pork and the black smoke curling in a dense cloud from her lofty funnels told of the lively work going on down below. As the boat left Atchison the captain took his stand in front of the pilot house and holding his chronometer in his hand kept the time while he closely watched the river on ahead. Soon the siren signalled St. Joseph, and the captain turned to receive the congratulations of his officers and passengers. He had beaten the Star's time, as I remember, by about three hours and 16 minutes. The master of the Star was game, and as soon as his successful rival returned to St. Louis the horns were transferred to the hurricane deck of the Lucas, which held them as long as it ploughed the muddy waters of the "old Mizzo."

The John Warner was famed as having the largest and sweetest toned bell on the river. The A. B. Chambers was owned principally in Kansas City, and was a prime favorite. Scarcely a trip was made from here to St. Joseph that it did not carry a party of Kansas City's youth and beauty, and Hickman's string band. The cabin furnished splendid space for dancing, Hickman's artists spun out sweet strains of music, and from dusky eve 'till dewy morn the revelry would be kept up. Many a heart was lost and won, many a vow soft whispered as the proud old steamer breasted the current and won its way up stream, or plowed its way down stream.

One day the Peerless came up wearing a caliope, and the strangeness of it attracted a great crowd, but after one experience, Kansas City preferred its steam music by wireless and ever after took it over the long distance, for if music be the concord of sweet sounds, a steamboat caliope no more generated it than a buzz saw.

Yes, those were good days for steamboats and steamboats were good for those days, and the writer is one who believes that steamboats can be made good for these days.

In his speech before the National Waterways Convention in Washington City in 1907, James J. Hill, the great railroad king, said:

"Gentlemen, the railroads of this country in a few years time cannot begin to carry the freight that commerce will demand to be carried. We need the rivers, as well as you, to help move the great products of this country, for surely there'll soon be more than enough for all."

Every year, it is said, 30 per cent. of what is produced in the United States, goes to waste because of the lack of facilities to transfer it from those who produce to those who would like to consume.

## CHAPTER XIV

### EVENTS OF WAR TIMES

FIRST BLOODSHED—WHY YOUNG MEN JOINED THE CONFEDERATE ARMY—A VETERAN'S EXPERIENCE—WHY M. V. B. FLANNERY BECAME A QUANTRELL MAN—THE YOUNGERS—A NARROW ESCAPE.

The first bloodshed in the great Civil War in Jackson County was at a place called "Rock Creek," two miles west of Independence, on the old Westport road.

The first man killed was Charles Harbaugh. A great deal has been told and written about what is called the Rock Creek Fight at the beginning of the Civil War. I want to record here what I firmly believe is the exact truth in regard to that occurrence. On the 12th day of June, 1861, Governor Clayborn F. Jackson issued a call for 50,000 volunteer militia, to repel invasion, etc. They were ordered to mobilize at designated points. Previous to that time militia companies had been forming all over the State in anticipation of war between the North and the South. Two of such companies had been formed in Independence, one called the "Blues," and the other the "Grays," the designation being made on account of the color of the uniform. Thomas W. Arnold was captain of one company, George F. Whitehead the other. Both of them were merchants of Independence at the time.

Captain Arnold had a general store on the south side of the square, where the Ott building now stands. Captain Whitehead had a boot and shoe store a few doors east of Mr. Arnold. The companies were made up of the young men of the town, and some of the young men from the country who lived near enough to come in and attend drill. They were armed with various kinds of guns, but mostly those that had been taken



from the Liberty arsenal when it was robbed by a preconcerted action from a lot of men from Clay and Jackson counties.

Pursuant to that proclamation, the men began to gather in the pasture of Albert G. Oldham, just west of where the old Independence and Westport road crosses Rock Creek. A Colonel Holloway had been commissioned colonel and designated to command the forces for this county. Mr. Holloway had been an officer of the U. S. army, but had resigned his commission, in order to cast his lot with the people of the South.

Other companies had been formed in different parts of the county. The men came in by companies, squads, and single, some of them belonging to no companies, but intending to join some company when they reached here. They were armed with all kinds of weapons imagineable, shot guns, squirrel rifles, and pistols of all known make. Pickets were thrown out toward Kansas City, men were soon busy enrolling and assigning them to companies. When the call reached Captains Arnold and Whitehead, they started runners out and notified their men to come at once. They got their men together and marched them out to camp as quickly as possible. Both of those companies were nicely uniformed and fairly well drilled. They made a nice appearance when lined up. Colonel Holloway looked them over and complimented them on their good showing.

When Captain Arnold's company was ordered out one member could not be found. He was a little Irish shoemaker named Patsy O'Donnell. Captain Arnold left word to him to come right on out if he should show up at his home or shop. About 3 o'clock on the evening of June 13th, Patsy came reeling into camp gloriously drunk. Captain Arnold upbraided him for presenting himself for duty in such a condition. Patsy commenced jawing the captain, and talking very loud. The captain told him if he did not hush up and behave himself he would put him under arrest. "Ye-s havn't got a man in yer company that can irrest me, sir," replied Patsy. Standing close by was a big, broad-shouldered farmer that belonged to the company, named Dealy Noland. When Patsy made that bold statement, the captain said, "Knock him down, Dealy!" No quicker said than done, one well directed punch landed under Patsy's left ear, and he found himself flat on his back. Jump on him said the captain, and Dealy immediately threw himself on the prostrate Patsy and held him as tight as if he had been in a vise. The captain called for a rope and then soon had him hog-tied so thoroughly that he could not move, and left him to think over what he had said. About 5 o'clock one

of the pickets came running into camp and reported that the Federal troops were coming down the hill on the west side of Big Blue. Colonel Holloway immediately ordered the men to "fall in." Captains Arnold's and Whitehead's being the best armed and drilled were ordered to march out first, and the others to fall in behind them. By this time Patsy had sobered up wonderfully, and was getting very tired of this position lying on the ground, tied as he was.

When the company was ready to march he called Captain Arnold, and told him he was very sorry for what he had done and begged to be untied so he could go with the company. Captain Arnold said to him, "Now, Patsy, if I turn you loose, will you behave yourself and obey my orders?" "I will," said Patsy. "Turn him loose," ordered the captain. When he was up they gave him his gun and belt and ordered him to "fall in," which he did. The two companies were marched up the road for nearly a half of mile and stationed on the inside of the rail fence on the west side of the road, and running parallel with the road. The other companies were coming up to support one piece of artillery that was stationed just at a small turn in the road, but at a point where a few turns of the wheel would put it into position to sweep a long, straight stretch of the road. Pretty soon the head of the Federal column came into sight. At the head of it was a flag of truce. Colonel Holloway had selected William (Bud) McClanahan as his aid. McClanahan belonged to the Blues, and was dressed in his uniform and rode a iron-gray horse. When Colonel Holloway saw the flag of truce he and McClanahan started west to meet him. When they met Colonel Holloway and the Federal commander shook hands, for they were old acquaintances and had served together in the army, and they commenced to talk. What was said was never known, and will never be known, for just at that time Patsy O'Donnel yelled, "Shoot the d—n rascals," and fired his musket at them. The firing commenced immediately. Colonel Holloway fell from his horse, and the Federal commander and his aids wheeled and ran out of range as fast as their horses could go, but did not fire a shot. Pandemonium broke loose at once, men were firing in every direction, a general panic started at once, about one-third of the men were engaged in the firing. None of those behind the piece of artillery fired a shot. The result of the firing was that Colonel Holloway was mortally wounded and taken to the house of Barnett M. Noland, nearby, where he died that night. Bud McClanahan and Thomas Cooper were taken to the house of Albert G. Oldham, another farmer near the scene, McClanahan died there



the next morning. Cooper remained there until he recovered enough to be taken to his home, near where Lees Summit now is.

The only man killed outright was Charles Harbaugh, a farmer from near Lees Summit. He was climbing over the fence, and just as he had thrown his leg over the top of the fence a bullet struck him just over the left eye, and passed clear through his head. He fell into the road, and no doubt never knew what struck him.

After the Federal forces ran, the firing ceased as suddenly as it had commenced, and all the men marched back to camp.

No provision having been made to feed the men and horses some of the men began to pull out for home. The rest broke camp and retreated eastwardly and did not stop until they had reached Little Blue. It is a mistake to call that affair a fight. There must be two parties to every fight, and in that case only one party acted. The Federal commander did not come there for a fight. He was sent to ascertain for what purpose that many armed men were congregated together. Just what his orders were will never be known, for the only man that was told of their commission was killed. Thus it will be seen, that the unauthorized act of a drunken soldier was the cause of the trouble and loss of life. A great hue and cry went all over the country, about Southern men firing on a flag of truce. This is the first written statement that I have ever made in regard to that affair, but it is absolutely true in every particular, for all of it I saw, and part of it I was, for I was a member of Captain Arnold's company, and was present and saw the whole thing.

When the order came to abandon camp and retreat, everything was in the upmost confusion, with the commander mortally wounded and no one else authorized to take command. It seemed to be a case of every man for himself, and the "Federals catch the hindmost." Wagons, saddles, camp equipments were scattered around in the upmost confusion. Late the next evening Major Price, with an attachment of infantry from Ft. Leavenworth, marched in and camped at the same place. They had come by forced march and the men were about worn out. When they came in Mr. Oldham, on whose premises they were camped (as he afterwards told me), went into the camp and saw Major Price and told him that there was a wounded man at his house and asked him to put a guard around the house. The major did so, and asked that nothing should be molested. His orders were fully carried out, and not a soldier except the guards put his foot on the place. There was another family living on the south side of the camp that reached up to the yard fence. As soon as the



family saw them coming into camp they took fright and ran away to a neighbor's and stayed all night, leaving no one in the house. The next morning they, having gotten over their scare, returned home and found the house had been entered and some small articles such as spoons, knives and forks had been stolen. The man went to headquarters and reported the theft to the major. He immediately ordered the assembly sounded, and every man in camp fell into line. He designated two officers to go down the line and carefully search each man. They soon caught three men with some of the loot in their possession. After all had been searched the three men were taken before a summary court martial, tried and convicted. The major sent for Mr. Oldham and told him of what had been done. The verdict of the court martial was that the men were to receive ten lashes on their bare backs, and to be dishonorably discharged from the service. Three teamsters with blacksnake whips were called and told to administer the punishment.

In relating the circumstances afterward, Mr. Oldham told the writer that he never saw such a sight in his life, and hoped that he would never do so again. After the men had received the whipping they were made to dress themselves, and were drummed out of camp to the tune of the Rogue's march.

If all of the officers of the U. S. Army had been such soldiers as Major Price, General Price would never had an army and western Missouri would have been spared the many scenes of murder, rape and heartless cruelty that afterward swept all over the country, and left a trail of ruined homes in their wake.

After Major Price had administered the punishment to the soldiers he marched his soldiers into town, but stayed only a little while. He came back and camped again that night in the same place. The next morning the whole command returned to Fort Leavenworth. During the whole time that he and his command were in Jackson County, not a single thing was disturbed or taken, as above stated. None of his men were allowed to leave camp or rank when on the march, except under orders.

#### WHY YOUNG MEN JOINED THE CONFEDERATE ARMY.

When the Civil War commenced there was living about one and one-half miles south of Raytown a man by the name of Martin L. Kritser. He owned a fine farm, well stocked and plenty of the world's goods to make him contented. Mr. Kritser had raised a large family of sons and

daughters, some of them had married and possessed homes of their own. The younger ones were at home with their parents, assisting their father and mother in the work of the farm.

Mr. Kritser was of German descent, but American born. He was a Whig in politics, and was a strong Union man and violently opposed to secession and slavery. Among his sons were John and Martin, aged about 19 and 17, respectively. They were at home, taking no part in the war either way.

Soon after the war commenced, a scout of Federal soldiers, consisting of about 30 men, rode up to Mr. Kritser's house and ordered dinner prepared for the whole number.

The lieutenant in command was a German, as well as the first sergeant. The next order was, feed for their horses. Mr. Kritser called the boys and told them to go with the lieutenant down to the barn and show him where to find the feed.

They all had dismounted and were leading their horses with a long, heavy, leather halter strap. John was walking just in front of the lieutenant, when, without warning, he unbuckled the strap and, doubling it up, commenced thrashing John unmercifully with it and, at the same time, remarked: "You are a dam secesh and makes trouble with the Government." When the sergeant saw what the lieutenant was doing he performed the same operation on Martin, the rest of the squad laughing and enjoying the transaction greatly. The boys had to stand it, of course, until the officers got tired of the job and quit.

The ladies of the house prepared the dinner for the whole party, which they ate. After they had all gotten through their dinner they rode off. It was the custom in those days for the farmers to give each of their sons and daughters a colt, and when grown to be their own property. Mr. Kritser had followed the custom, so that John and Martin each had a good horse, saddle and bridle of their own. In addition to their horses each of them owned a good double-barreled shotgun, which they used in shooting wild geese and prairie chickens, which came in countless numbers during the fall and winter.

After the departure of the soldiers John said to Martin: "You know that we have been strong Union people, all of us, but if this is the way we are to be treated by men in the uniform of Union soldiers, I want no more of it, and you may do as you please, but I am going into the Confederate army, and I swear I will kill every d—n Dutchman that I possibly can, and am in hopes one of them will be that scoundrel that

whipped me." Martin simply replied: "I will go with you." They told their father of their decision. He replied: "Sons, I don't blame you. If I were of your age and had been treated like you have, I would go too." They went out, saddled their horses, got their guns that they had kept hidden out to avoid having them taken away from them, their clothing and blankets, bade the family good-bye, and struck out for the Confederate army.

They joined Company E, Shank's regiment, Shelby's brigade. That company was selected by General Shelby for his escort. From that time on until the close of the conflict, they were in all of the fights of that brigade. They were always in the front.

How well John Kritser kept his oath made that day in his father's yard, God and himself only knows, but if any men whose face showed any trace of German blood in his veins met him in battle, no questions were asked, and business would immediately begin.

When General Price made his raid through Missouri in 1864, some of the men of Shelby's brigade got the idea that he was not sending his escort into the close places as much as they thought he ought to and began talking among themselves about it. The talk finally reached the ears of General Shelby. When the advance reached Booneville, there was seen Federal soldiers on the opposite side of the river. Shelby decided then and there that he would show them whether he was shielding them or not. He rode down to the river and saw a lot of skiffs tied up to the bank. Turning to Captain Langhorne, he said: "Captain, detail an officer and half dozen men to take two of these skiffs across the river and find out how many Yankee soldiers are over there." Langhorne replied: "It looks like sentencing a man to death to start him across there in an open boat. I will call for volunteers and see if I can get them." The call was made for volunteers for the trip. John Kritser was the first one to answer the call. Soon the number was made up. There was a lot of old brick houses standing on that side and the Federal soldiers were firing from behind them. Shelby directed his men to open fire on them with their rifles, and keep them from firing on the skiffs while they were crossing if possible.

His men unsaddled their horses and put the saddles in the boats and swam the horses to the north side. The audacity of the thing seemed to throw a scare into the Federals, for, when they landed, saddled and mounted, the enemy were found to be retreating as fast as possible.





CONFEDERATE MONUMENT, LONE JACK, MO.



The effect of that trip across the river forever closed the mouths of the complainants as to his shielding his escort.

Many years after the close of the war, I was in conversation with an old veteran of the Confederate artillery that had gone through the whole war in the same division as Shelby brigade, when he made the remark: "I have known a great many soldiers in my time, but the best all around soldier that I ever saw or knew was John Kritser of Company E; Shank's regiment. He was always ready for fun, frolic or fight. It made no difference to him. He certainly was Johnnie on the spot when it came to soldiering. He could ride longer, sleep less, get into more tight places and get out quicker without being hurt or caught than any man in the regiment. After the war he went to Texas and went into the cattle business.

It will be seen what acts of cruelty and oppression will do. If that lieutenant had not treated him as he did, the probabilities are that both John and Martin Kritser would have stayed at home and attended to their own affairs. Such cases as the above described were plentiful over western Missouri. In a great many other cases the ill-treatment was worse than was administered to the Kritser boys, but, in almost every case, the result was the same.

#### A VETERAN'S EXPERIENCE.

One Sunday evening, many years ago, I was strolling through Woodland cemetery in Independence when I noticed a man some distance away searching the names on the tombstones and monuments. I soon recognized him as an old acquaintance, a person that I had known for a great many years. About the same time he saw me and walked over to where I was. We passed the compliments of the day with each other. He then asked me if I could tell him where the men that were killed in the "Wagner fight" were buried. I told him that I could, and would go with him to the spot. When we reached the place, he ran his eyes over the names and soon stopped—pointed his finger to a name, and said: "That was the hardest man to kill that I ever saw." "How do you know about him?" I asked. He replied: "I sent three dragoon balls through that man's body before I knocked him out of the saddle." "How did you find out his name?" "After the fight I went back and took his belt, pistol and saber from his body and his name was written on the belt. I threw the caber away, but wore the belt until the close of the war." "Tell me about the fight" I said to him. "All right," he replied, "Let's go to



that seat yonder, where we can sit down, and I will tell you." We walked to the seat and sat down, and he gave me the following account of it:

"We had gotten orders from Geo. Todd, who was then in Jackson County, to meet near the Howard's Farm (that lies just east of the present county farm). When the men had gotten there, we counted off and there were 63 of us. We threw out pickets along the old Harrisonville road, both ways, and awaited developments. There is a long hill on the south of Little Blue, where the road leads up from the bottom land to the higher lands on the south. It followed up a branch between hills on either side, and was covered with brush. We had named it 'Manassas Gap.' It was an ideal place for a surprise. The ridge on either side was high enough that the attacking party could fire down on anyone in the road, and the sides were so steep that it was almost impossible for a man on horseback to climb up. We did not know if we were to take station there or not, and await developments.

"The most of our men were in the edge of the brush on the east side of the road. South of the cut—on the opposite side, was an open field that looked as though it had been in wheat for the last crop that had been raised on it. From where the pickets stood they discovered a company of Federal soldiers coming. One of the pickets concealed himself and counted 62 men. Another picket came in and reported the number. Our orders were to wait until they had gotten opposite the open field and then to charge on them so as to get advantage of the open ground in which to do our fighting. The Federal commander had discovered the pickets, which purposely showed themselves in order to get the Federals to follow them to the open ground, which they did. As soon as our commander saw that they were in the open field, he ordered the charge. At it we went, whooping like wild Indians. As soon as the Federal commander heard us, he stopped the pursuit of the pickets and turned his men to meet us. Such a fight I have never seen as that was. There we were—62 men on one side and 63 on the other. In less than a minute, the whole 125 of us were fighting on one acre of land. The smoke and the dust raised by the horses soon got so thick that it was almost impossible to distinguish friend from foe, and men had to be careful to identify the man that he was shooting at for fear it would be one of his own men.

"None of our men had less than two, and some of them three and four Colts six-shooters (I had four), while the Federals only had one, with carbine and saber. There was such a rearing and plunging of horses that carbines were useless. They soon emptied their pistols, and

of course had no time to reload. Some of them undertook to use their sabers, but it is well known among veteran cavalymen that a saber is not a good weapon with which to face a man with a loaded six-shooter that knows how to use it. We soon discovered their pistols were empty, and then we got just as close to them as possible and used our own pistols to the best advantage. I saw that man draw his saber and start for me. I waited until he got nearly close enough to hit me with it, then I aimed a shot at his body. The shot must have struck a vital part for the saber immediately dropped from his hand. As quisk as I possibly could, I fired two more shots. When I fired the last shot my pistol was not three feet from his body. His horse went on past me and the rider did not fall from him until he had gotten 15 or 20 paces beyond me. How it happened that he remained on the horse as long as he did, I don't know, for I think the first shot was fatal.

"There was not a command given after the first one, or, if given, was not heard or heeded. Every man on both sides knew that it was a fight to the death; no quarters asked or given. We were all fighting under the black flag. At the first rush, Dick Yader rode straight at Captain Wagner. They had a hand to hand fight of it. Wagner shot half of Yager's mustache off in the melee, but fell from his horse, shot through the body. After the Federals had emptied their only pistol and discovered that Captain Wagner had been killed, they seemed to realize that they were at our mercy and they broke and commenced running in every direction, followed by one, two and sometimes three of our men. As a general thing, their horses were in better condition than ours, and they soon ran away out of reach of our pistols. After it was over we were astonished to find that we had only one man killed, one severely and one slightly wounded. We gathered up all the arms that we could find, taking those of the killed. We also found that we had killed 16 of their men, including the captain. We took the captured pistols and tried them to see how they would shoot. It was a pattern called 'Star Revolver.' Upon trial, we found they would not shoot with any accuracy at all. In shooting at a mark at fifteen steps, they were just as apt to shoot as much as three feet in any direction away from the mark as to hit it. That accounted for our small loss of men.

"I fought men of many different commands while in the war, but I never fought a braver set of men in all that time than those of the Second Colorado cavalry, and if they had been armed as we were, with Colts revolvers, there are some of us living today that would, in all probability, been killed in that fight."



All of the time that he was telling me that, I remained perfectly silent and did not say a word to him. I had known that his father was a strong Union man when the war commenced, and I wanted to find out why he had become gorilla. During his recital of the fight he had been speaking in a plain, every-day conversation, such as any man would use describing a trip to town or any other common occurrence.

When I saw that he was through with his description of the fight, I asked him, "Where was the closest place that you were ever in during the war?" He replied: "That is a very hard question for me to answer. Sometimes a man may be in a very close place and not know it, and again he may think that he is in a very dangerous place when he is not, but about the closest place that I think that I ever was in occurred on Black-water Creek, in Johnson County. We had gotten a lot of recruits made up of young men from that county, or rather boys they were, not over eighteen years old. I was directed to take them in hand and teach them some of our tricks in evading the enemy scouts. I knew of a big bend in the creek, and it had heavy timber all around it. I took six of them with me one evening, and after getting supper and enough for breakfast at a friendly farm house and feed enough to supply our horses and went out to the farthest point of the bend and stayed all night.

"The next morning, after we had eaten our breakfast and fed our horses that were hitched to the nearby trees, I picked up a chunk of wood about 16 inches long, and after standing it on end sat down on it with my back towards the creek. The rest of the boys sat down on the ground all around the fire that we had built, and were having a good time, laughing and talking. All at once there was a terrible crash, and the ashes and fire flew all around, but not a man was hurt. I jumped to my feet, as did all the rest, turned around, and just along the edge of the creek, I saw the heads and shoulders of 25 or 30 Federal soldiers. They had discovered our camping place, slipped down under the bank of the creek and at a given signal had fired at the whole bunch of us with their carbines, without us knowing that they were any way close to us. I immediately drew my pistol and opened fire at the captain, while the other boys opened up at the men, who were reloading their carbines as they were strung along the bank. I was close enough to the captain to see the kind of pistol that he was using. At my second shot he dropped down behind the bank, as did the other men when we opened on them. Motioning to the boys, I turned and ran down the other bank of the creek opposite to them. We ran as fast as we could, abandoning our



horses. We were soon out of their sight, and they did not follow us, but contented themselves with taking our horses and equipment.

"After I saw they were not following us, we stopped, and watched them. We saw them leading our horses off and apparently abandon the search for us. One of the boys said to me, 'Now, what are we to do? We are afoot and don't know where to get another outfit.' I told them that I did not propose to stay afoot long, and that I was going to follow them and get a horse if they did not go clear out of the country. We followed them all day, being careful to keep out of their sight. When we did not see them, we could follow their tracks. About sundown, we saw them stop at a farm house and hitch their horses along an old rail fence, go into the field and get corn to feed them. They did not unsaddle them. Just tied them with the halter strap. We felt certain they would stay there all night, which was just what I wanted them to do. They put out a picket at the farthest end of the line of horses from the barn. The men took their blankets to the barn and made their beds there. The night was chilly and the picket made a fire to warm his hands by.

"About 12 o'clock I slipped along the fence until I got near enough to the picket to see that he had gone to sleep with his gun between his knees. I slipped along the fence until I came to the captain's horse, which I could distinguish from the saddle. I carefully laid down the fence, unhitched him and led him back to my comrades. I told them how I had gotten him and told them to get one at a time and do likewise. Each of them did so. In a few minutes we were better mounted than before the loss of our horses in the morning. After we were all mounted I remarked that picket ought to be killed for sleeping on his post and letting us steal the horses, and that I had a great notion to ride down there and do it. One of the men said to me, 'Don't do that; we have succeeded in getting good horses and can get along ways from here by daylight, and don't let us take a chance of arousing the whole camp and get them after us again.' I concluded that his reason was a good one.

"We rode away on our new horses and by morning had put many miles between us and them. Some time after that I rode up to the house where they had stayed that night. The farmer's wife told me that the captain had given her an account of his firing at us. He told her that he could not understand why he did not hit me. I can hit a squirrel in the top of a tall tree with this pistol, but I could not hit the big brown back of that bushwhacker at 15 steps. 'Possibly there is not as much danger to you in shooting at squirrels as there is in shooting at bushwackers,' the lady replied."

During all the time that he was talking, I was studying him closely, trying to find out his innermost thoughts, and, if possible, to learn just what manner of man he was. Let me describe him to you. He was a little over six feet tall, rather angular in his formation, but showing great strength and endurance in his general make-up. He looked strong enough to cut wood all day and dance all night after it, or ride all day and night without stopping if it was necessary. It was his face, however, that revealed his strongest points. His complexion was a strange mixture, rarely seen. When talking they showed great tenderness, but a good judge of human nature would say they would look daggers when aroused to anger.

When he was through with that story, I put the question to him direct: "How did you happen to become a bushwhacker?" He turned around, and, looking me straight in the face, replied: "That question brings up a terrible recollection to me, one that I wish that I could forget, but, as you have asked me the question, I will tell you why. My father was a native of Kentucky, but, strange as it may seem to you, he was religiously opposed to slavery. He was a great Bible reader, and, from it, had been led to believe that human slavery was wrong. So firmly did he believe it, that when my grandfather, who was a slave owner, died, he would not allow my mother to take any of the slaves in the division of the estate. In politics he was a Whig, and, when the war commenced, he was a strong Union man, and strongly opposed secession. He came to this country when land was cheap and, by hard work and economy, had accumulated a fine farm with plenty of stock around him. I was the youngest of six living children, and the only boy in the bunch.

"I had been helping him ever since I was old enough to work. Our income was made principally from the sale of hogs, cattle and sheep. We had to butcher the hogs in the fall and cure the meat and sell it in the spring to the outfitters for the trainmen on the plains. We kept our steer calves until grown and sold them for work oxen. The sheep we kept for their wool, out of which most of our clothing was made. I had absorbed the teachings of my father and was strong for the Union. I had decided that I would take no sides in the war that we all knew was coming, but that I would stay at home and help my father and mother. My four oldest sisters had married and had homes and families of their own. The youngest sister was still unmarried and lived at home with father, mother and myself. By hard work, father and myself had raised a big corn crop and besides fattening 70 head of fine hogs, had a big lot cribbed up, also



a fine lot of hay put away. The war had commenced in all of its fury, but we had not been molested by any one.

"One day father and I took a team and went to the timber for a load of wood. Upon our return home we found Colonel Jennison with his regiment of Jay-hawkers and Red Legs in full possession. They were killing our cattle for beef and loading wagons with bacon out of the smoke-house, as well as emptying the cribs of corn to feed their horses. Father went to Colonel Jennison and remonstrated with him for such conduct, and told him that he was a Union man and always had been, and wanted to know if that was the way he was to be treated by men claiming to be Federal soldiers. Jennison replied to him: 'You are just like all of these d—n Missourians. You claim to be strong Union men when we are around, but as soon as we are gone, you are secesh. We are going to take everything that we want in spite of your claims.'

"On going into the house, I found my mother lying on the bed and my sister trying to stop the flow of blood from a deep gash on her cheek and forehead. I asked her how she got hurt. She replied: 'One of those negroes came in here and started upstairs. I caught hold of the door and told him that he had no business up there, as it was my daughter's room, with nothing in it that would be of any use to him. He caught hold of the door with both hands and gave it a violent jerk. The sharp edge of it struck me in the face, knocking me down.' To say that it made me furious does not express the feelings that I had. As I stood there looking at the blood on her face, my whole feelings changed to hatred for any man that wore a blue uniform. The feelings of my sister changed also.

"The next morning Jennison and his men left, after taking everything almost that they could lay their hands on. After they had gone, my sister and I went out and looked our things over. They had not left a pound of meat, lard, corn or hay on the place. Everything looked desolate. We saw our year's work and more swept away in a night. Mother in bed with her face bandaged up, her eyes swelled shut and suffering. With tears in her eyes, she said to brother: 'If I were a man like you, I would go and join the bushwhackers and kill everyone of those scoundrels that I possibly could. There is my saddle horse. He is somewhere out on the prairie, for I don't think they were able to catch him. Go get him. I will give him to you, but promise me that you will avenge the wrong that has been done us.' I made my decision there and then. I determined that I would avenge the treatment of my father and mother. I went out, caught the horse, borrowed a saddle and bridle from



a neighbor, and, after bidding the family good-bye, was off to join the ranks of the men that was fighting Jennison and his gang. I was totally unarmed when I reached them, but was soon fitted by the loan of arms from those that had a surplus, and I was ready for business. For three long, weary, bloody years, I followed that black flag and, during all that time, I never let an opportunity pass to fulfill my vow. I suffered hunger, cold, and, at times, almost nakedness, but I don't regret it now.

"When General Lee surrendered and the Confederacy was defeated, we were offered amnesty if we would surrender and take the oath of allegiance to the United States Government. A lot of our men, myself among the number, decided to accept the terms. We went in and surrendered and received our paroles. We were allowed to keep our horses and, as soon as I had received my parole, I bade my old comrades good-bye and turned my horse's head homeward. As I rode on, I determined that, as far as I was concerned, the war was over, and that I would do my utmost to make a good citizen out of myself. I felt that I had fully avenged the wrong done to my mother.

"When I got home I found the farm overgrown with weeds, fences burned and destroyed. I went to work with a will. Soon the effects of my work began to show. I raised good crops and began to prosper. In a few years more I decided that I needed a help-mate, so I married a good wife, and now I have two nice children, a good farm, with plenty of stock around me, and owe no man a dollar, and, what is more, I have the respect and confidence of my friends and neighbors. I am not a fatalist, but, when I look back over some of the escapes that I made, when it seemed that I was looking death in the face, and from which there seemed to be no getting away from, I wonder if there is some work left in this world for me to do yet to benefit mankind. I hope there is, and, when the call comes, that I may be prepared to meet it."

Here, he arose, looked at his watch and said: "I have been here talking to you all evening, and it is time for me to be going home. I expect that my wife is looking for me now." I told him that I had enjoyed his story very much, indeed, and that, at some future time, I wanted him to tell me of the fight at Centralia. He replied that he would at some time. He mounted his horse and rode off, and, as he went down the road, I watched him until he was out of sight, then the question arose in my mind, how it is possible that a man who has gone through what that man has can be changed from the blood-thirsty human tiger that he was to the loving husband and father that he is?

## WHY M. V. B. FLANNERY BECAME A QUANTRELL MAN.

The first husband of Mrs. Laura E. Bridges, of Independence, Mo., was M. V. B. Flannery, and this couple lived near Hickman's Mill when the Civil War broke out.

Their house was burned by Federal troops October 29, 1861, at the beginning of the Civil War. Mr. Flannery volunteered under Col. Upton Hayes, and, after Colonel Hayes' death, in 1862, he served under Gen. Sterling Price for six months, receiving an honorable discharge. He came home in March, 1863. He then rented the Chrisman farm and had 160 acres planted in corn and three men hired when the "White Rags" came—men from Andrew and DeKalb counties, Missouri, who claimed to be Federal soldiers, but, in reality, plunderers and outlaws.

These men came across Flannery's field and ordered him to take his team from the plow and pilot them through a part of Jackson, Cass, Bates and Vernon counties, Missouri. He begged to be let off; then he asked to be permitted to go to the house and see his wife and baby and get a riding horse, a trotter he had there.

They went with him to the house, where he got his horse, bid his family good-bye, and was gone with them for nine days.

The men were in 14 fights during that time and lost 23 men. The party returned to Independence with three other men they had captured and used as pilots also. These men learned that they were to be hanged at Independence the following morning after their arrival. Two of the men decided to join the band rather than suffer the penalty, but Flannery and one other man said they would die rather than join the band.

The party stopped at Pleasant Lea's place, near the present site of Lees Summit, for dinner. Here the officers and pilots ate in the house—the others killed, slayed, cooked and ate in the barnyard. While here, Flannery found a short lead pencil in his vest pocket, which the searchers had overlooked, and, tearing off the margin of a newspaper, he managed to write a note to his wife, instructing her to go to William Hagan, who had married a cousin of Flannery, and have him go to Zion Flannery, his father, and not to spare his horse. Then have them, Hagan and Zion Flannery, go to Kansas City and see James and Miles Flannery, officers in the Federal Army, and tell them to come to Independence that night and plead for his life, as he was to be hanged at sunrise the next morning.

The note was slipped to Miss Lea, as Flannery went to the dinner table. She read it, and immediately ran one mile across the field to Mrs. Flannery's place, arriving out of breath and unable to speak. Mrs. Flannery



nery took the note, read it, and grasping the situation, she saddled her horse, rode up to the porch and taking Miss Lea behind her, and her two-year-old son in front, started for William Hagan's place, with all speed possible. She left Miss Lea at Mr. Harris' on the way.

William Hagan was a Republican, and his wife was a cousin of Flannery. Mrs. Flannery told Mrs. Hagan her trouble, and Mrs. Hagan said that her husband would not dare to go, as he had reported on the Confederates and would be killed. Mrs. Flannery said: "He is between two fires; it is death anyhow, and I will report it in less than two hours to Quantrell." (Quantrell at the time was at the Daniel White farm, northeast of William Hagan's place.) When Mr. Hagan came from the field in answer to the summons, he said: "I'll be killed if I go." Mrs. Flannery replied: "You will be killed if you don't go, for I will report you to Quantrell in less than a half hour." He then agreed to go and started at once on horseback, leaving his team in the field. His horse was exhausted when he arrived at the home of Zion Flannery, father of M. V. B. Flannery. He got another horse there and Zion Flannery accompanied him. They changed horses at Judge James Yeager's place, he furnishing horses for both men, and they managed to find the two Flannerys at 9 o'clock that night.

The two brothers prevailed on the colonel to sign a release and the two Flannerys and the major in command at Kansas City came at once to Independence and secured M. J. B. Flannery's release at daylight.

The two Flannery brothers, Hagan and Zion Flannery, then went to M. V. B. Flannery's home with the latter, and, upon his arrival home he said to them: "I want to go to the porch before I dismount and show my wife what I have undergone." He then called to his wife to come and count the bullet holes in his clothes, saddle and horse.

Mrs. Flannery came and counted and found four bullet holes in his coat, three in his hat, two in pants, three through the horse's mane near the ears, and two near the tail, and the hair cut off across the top of the horse's hip in several places. All told, there were 27 bullet marks.

Mr. Flannery then told his wife to get breakfast for his father, cousins, Jim and Miles Flannery, and Bill Hagan. "I am going to join Quantrell. I have my protection papers from the brigadier-general in my pocket, and this is the way I am protected. I am going to Quantrell."

The father, his cousin and brothers pleaded with him not to go and prevailed on Mrs. Flannery to dissuade him. Her answer was: "Father,



if it were me, I would go, as he cannot live in peace here, and I would sell my life as dearly as possible." He did join Quantrell and was shot from an ambush while in the service in Texas, June 29, 1864, and was buried at Johnston Station, Tarrant County, Texas.

#### THE YOUNGERS.

Colonel Henry W. Younger was living, when the war broke out, on the Independence and Harrisonville road, a few miles from what is now known as Lees Summit. Judge Younger was county judge for eight years and afterward was twice elected to the State Legislature; it seems that when he, his family and his property were first attacked, he was a United States Mail Contractor, and had his transportation outfit stationed at Harrisonville, Mo. The first dash of Jennison through Jackson and Cass counties swept the lovely property of Colonel Younger away; this gained, of course, for the Federals, eternal hatred from the Younger family; they espoused immediately the Confederate cause, though they were primarily Union men. The next year brought its full harvest of death and crime. On the 20th of July, 1862, Colonel Younger was waylaid and assassinated five miles from Independence. As he had been trading in town the day before rather extensively, the presumption is that he was killed for his money. Though he had some \$2,000 or \$3,000 about his person, the robbers did not get but about \$400. It would have been good for the world and Jackson County had the assassins that killed Colonel Younger never been born. For this and other insults that had been offered to the Younger family brought to the front one of the most daring and dangerous characters that ever drilled beneath the black flag. Coleman Younger, more hastily called Cole, son of Colonel Younger, while beholding the agonizing tremors of his delicate mother and sisters over the dead body of his dear father, made resolutions the faithful carrying out of which has cast a shadow over his father's family and good name, made hundreds of widows and fatherless children, and scattered forgotten graves over the entire portion of western Missouri and eastern Kansas. Many a noble son and brother that volunteered to fight for the glorious stars and stripes of our native land melted and went down before the remorseless anger and resolutions of that injured son and brother. The historical narrative and connection would be entirely broken, were the deeds and crimes of the Younger brothers to be followed.

## A NARROW ESCAPE.

The following narrative was written years ago by J. T. Palmer:

"Fort Sumter had been fired into, and the 'war dogs' had already been turned loose at other places. Men were leaving their homes, and women were in distress. The mails being stopped, the country was full of dreadful reports, and to those whose fortune or misfortune it was to be living on the border of Missouri, the name of Jayhawker or Federal brought terror to the heart. A man was liable to be shot down at any time, without a minute's warning.

"I had several reasons for not engaging at an early date in the conflict. I was somewhat conscientious about taking an oath that would place me under the command of wicked men, who would be likely to lead me contrary to what I believed to be right, for I had confessed the name of Jesus Christ before men, and accepted him as my leader. I had been reading the Bible, and was not sure that I would be doing right in going to war. I was living with Mr. Wells, and my friend, Mr. Perry Rippetoe, was living with Mr. Chiles. Mr. Chiles was preparing to move to Texas. Mr. Wells said to me, 'Will you take my wagon and team, and help Perry to bring some freight wagons from the Up Hayes farm?' I said that I would. We went northwest past Watt's mill, then along the Kansas line, then northeast into Missouri. If I ever hauled an awkward load, it was two Santa Fe wagons tied to a common two-horse wagon. Perry Rippetoe was an experienced freighter, and I followed him.

"We brought one load, and dinner not being ready, we ate a few late peaches, and started back after another. We had passed Mr. Poteet's house, on the state line, and half the length of his big corn field on the east, the open prairie of Kansas being on the west. Mr. Rippetoe, looking ahead, said, 'Look yonder.' Looking, I saw a company of armed men horse-back, coming over the prairie ridge in front. 'Yes, that is those Jayhawkers or Federals—see the flag.' Mr. Rippetoe said, 'What had we best do—hide in the corn, or take a mule each and run?' 'Neither,' said I; 'if we hide in the corn they will find us, there are so many of them, just see them still coming over the ridge, and if we run, there are plenty fast horses among them, and they will catch us on any of these mules; and besides, if we attempt to run or hide, they will kill us sure, for they will think we have done something wrong. My word for it, we had better drive right ahead, put on the best face we can, meet them, and risk our chances.' He said, 'If you think best, we will do it.' All this time

we had been moving onward. The advance came up; we turned to the west, intending to give them the full benefit of the road, as there was plenty of room. 'Halt!' 'Halt!' We obeyed. 'Get down off that mule, and have you any arms?' Having our coats off, they did not search us. In the meantime, the Stars and Stripes went streaming past, with the bright colors glittering in the sunbeams. Glorious, indeed, was the old flag, in the hands of true men, but on that occasion it was calculated to inspire in our heart anything but respect. While we were thus held captive at the road side, a few words were exchanged by those who held us captive and the soldiers, as they rode by, such as 'I will attend to that business,' and another 'I will see you again about something else,' which showed that they were intimately acquainted with each other; and now they turn their attention to us. 'Where are you going, and where are you from?' 'We live back here a few miles, and are going after some Santa Fe wagons for Mr. Chiles. The freighting company has dissolved and Mr. Chiles is having his part of the wagons brought home.' 'Get on your mules and drive up,' was the positive command, and we readily but not cheerfully obeyed. 'What is your politics?' comes the horrid question, and I heard Mr. Rippetoe reply that he was a Union man, and always had been. 'Why are you not in the army, fighting for your country?' was the next question, in an angry mood. My turn came next: 'What is your politics?' 'I am a Southern man; I was born and raised in the South.' We were now traveling rapidly west, guarded closely by four men, who made it their business by turns to question us. Here comes a rather low, compact built man, with his rifle in a direct line of my body. He has his broad-brimmed hat set a little to one side. He seems to be proud of his situation—really, he has a mean look. He don't have very much to say, and I am glad of it. A small man now rides up, with his revolver in his hand, and sword at his side. He asks, 'Do you know any Sesesh?' I replied, 'Yes, sir.' 'Where do they live?' 'They have gone south, to the Southern army.' Now he gives place to a tall man, with a heavy double-barreled shot-gun, who is my especial escort for a while. I had rather he would turn his gun in any other direction.

*I*—"Where are you taking us?"

*Tall Man*—"Into Kansas City."

*I*—"We are going in the wrong direction for Kansas City."

*Tall Man*—"We will turn and go into the city. If we went down the line we might run into a company of Sesesh." "Why are you not in the army fighting for your country?" he asks in a pompous manner and con-



tinues, "the southern men are trying to destroy the Union." "I don't look at it in that way," was my reply.

*Tall Man*—"They have taken Fort Sumter and are now in rebellion against the Union."

*I*—"This is not altogether a one-sided business." "What do you mean, sir," said the tall man. "I mean that the southern men could not get their constitutional rights in the Union; when their negroes were stolen they could not get them back."

*Tall Man*—"Who stole their negroes?"

*I*—"Why a great many men from the north have made it their business for years to persuade and steal the negroes which belong to the southern men under the constitution, and you know it as well as I do."

*Tall Man*—"Why didn't they get them back by law, the northern man helped to enact the fugitive slave law."

*I*—"They did try but could not have the law enforced."

*Tall Man*—"I don't believe that the war is about the negroes. The southern men have violated the constitution and want to break up the Union."

*I*—"The northern men have violated the constitution too. Old John Brown took Harper's Ferry and fought the soldiers and now they have violated the constitution from the president down."

*Tall Man*—angrily—"When did President Lincoln violate the constitution?"

*I*—"Why was it necessary for congress to pass bills legalizing the acts of the president if he had not violated the constitution? He did violate it."

*Tall Man*—"How did you get this information?"

*I*—"It was published in the papers."

*Tall Man*—"There are a great many things in the papers that are not true. I don't believe it."

*I*—"I admit that many things are published in the papers that are not true, but I believe this and the war is carried on contrary to the constitution today. Here we are taken up on the public highway and marched as prisoners, although we did no wrong."

*Tall Man*—"This rebellion must be put down." As the subject was an unpleasant one I tried to talk about something else. The small man with sword and revolver who was the leader is again at my side and we are now going southwest. I said, "Captain, where are you taking us." He replied, "to Mound City, sir." Now I had heard that Mound City was

the headquarters of the jayhawkers. If he had said that he was going to deliver us into the hands of the whole United States army and navy combined, it would have been good news compared with going to Mound City, for I verily believed that if they took us into Mound City we would never get out alive. So I said, "Captain, it is getting late and we have had no dinner, don't you intend to give us supper?" I was not hungry, but did not wish to let him know that there was any dread in my mind.

*Captain*—"I don't know, it is war times now, and you will have to do as I do; sometimes I eat once a day and sometimes oftener, just as I can get it."

*I*—"I am in the habit of eating three times a day and would like to have supper if you can get it, if you don't I will do the best I can without it." I kept on secretly praying, yes, praying; I could raise my heart to God in prayer for the Lord is nigh to all that call upon Him in truth, and he could hear me now, although I was very closely guarded. I thought of many instances where God had delivered his people in Bible times and of many cases recorded in history. I was trying to plan our escape; I felt as if I could act my part in a desperate manner if the Lord should give me the opportunity, provided it did not endanger the life of my friend Mr. Rippetoe, could I get hold of the revolver, rifle or double-barreled shot-gun, and a few seconds time to use it. You may well think that these were very wicked thoughts for a Christian to harbor, but remember that I am but human; and if the Lord had not been watching over me I might have been turned into a desperado. They did not give us the least opportunity to escape. About dark they stopped at a house and the Captain gave us each a piece of pie. Here one man, whom I have not described, took leave to go to Olathe. We then turned due south. I was quite willing to let my mules slack their speed, but when I was commanded "to hurry up" those mules, I knew I had to do it. The moon arose about dark and shone brightly. I still talked to my escort as calmly as if nothing unusual was happening, and on we went until about one or two o'clock in the night. We had just crossed Coffee Creek in the Black Bob district of Kansas, when we were stopped in the midst of an old Indian camping ground, with brush around the edges. The moon was shining in splendor. As the night air was cool I slid down from the saddle and our guard stood consulting near Mr. Rippetoe, for they seemed to guard him closely, and they may well have afforded to do it. At this time I was near my team looking down, kicking my feet in the dust and thinking so deeply that when the Captain said "step here," I

paid no attention to it. Mr. Rippetoe then said "the Captain wants you to step here." Immediately remembering what the Captain had said, I hastened to obey.

Everything looked very suspicious, so I determined not to become excited, if I could help it. As I stepped forward, I said as calmly as I could: "Well, Captain, what is it now?" The Captain spoke slow, and as if excited: "You men have one of two things to do right here, and right now." I spoke again: "Well, Captain, what is that?"

*Captain*—"Take the oath and return to your homes, or die right here."

*I*—"That looks hard, but what is your oath?"

*Captain*—"That you will support the constitution of the United States, and not take up arms against the government."

*I*—"Captain, I have no objection to taking part of that oath, I am willing to swear that I will not take up arms against the government, as I told you before I do not want to fight; I could have been into it before now if I had chosen to do so, but to swear to support the constitution, I can't do that; I think you should let me off without taking that part of the oath."

*Captain*—"It is against my oath to do so. Will you, take the oath?"

*I*—"I will not!"

*Captain*—"Then, you shall suffer for it."

*I*—"The Lord is my helper, I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

The Captain now turned to Mr. Rippetoe, inquired if he would take the oath, and hastily swore him, and turned toward me, at the same time raising his revolver, which I plainly heard click. Click went the rifle in the hands of the man with his hat set on the side of his head, at the same time click, click, went the double barreled shot-gun, as the tall man raised it to his face. Already my heart seemed feeling for the messenger of death. I could feel my body bracing itself to receive the shock. My last earthly hope was gone and I had but one request to make. I said: "Captain, give me a few minutes for prayer, please." Without waiting for an answer I knelt down, Mr. Rippetoe sank down, covering his face with both hands as he groaned out: "Oh Lordy!" All this had taken place in very quick time, yet I could watch as well as pray; there stood the three ready to send me to eternity, the Captain with his revolver presented, the man with his hat set on the left side of his head taking deliberate aim along his rifle, seemed very anxious to show his skill, and the tall man





SIX MILE BAPTIST CHURCH.



THRESHING SCENE IN JACKSON COUNTY.



with his big double barreled shot-gun has squared himself, and I think his aim is true. In a few broken sentences I acknowledged my dependence upon the great God that had made and taken care of me, confessed my sins and short-comings, prayed the Lord to forgive all my sins, and be with me. Committed myself into his hand, offered up a short petition for those who were near and dear to me, and then said in my prayer: "Lord, have mercy on our nation and country; may this war and bloodshed be stopped; and may the time soon come when war shall be no more; but all shall know Thee, from the least to the greatest; and these men, remember them, in thy great mercy; may they see the wickedness of their ways, and turn, before they go down to eternal ruin; Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Here, I thought I had finished my course, but as they did not fire, I continued praying in a few broken sentences, when the man with the rifle said: "Captain, stop this foolishness." The tall man then spoke: "Captain, I think you should let this man go, he don't believe there is any Union." The Captain said: "I don't like to kill him." My friend who had by this time uncovered his face, spoke a few words in my favor. The Captain then stepped to where I was, still on my knees, he put out his hand, I arose and took his hand, and he spoke in a mild tone, as follows: "Do you, sir, pretend to say that you are a better man than Washington, and the men who made the constitution and gave their lives for it, and all the great and good men of our day who swear to support it, and are ready to die for it?" I said: "No, I don't say any such thing, Washington and the men who made the constitution have done a great and good work, and all I have to say about the great and good men of our time who are swearing to support the constitution is this, they think different from what I do, or they would act different from what they do."

*Captain*—"What do you think about the negroes?"

*I*—"I think that they are just in the place God intended them to be."

*Captain*—"Well, I don't."

*I*—"Well, I do."

*Captain*—"Well, I guess that I will have to let you off; will you take that part of the oath?"

*I*—"I have no objections to swear that I will not take up arms against the United States.

*Captain*—"In case a company of southern soldiers were to come along, would you swear to support the Confederate states?"

*I*—"I could not do it if I had taken this oath."



*Captain*—"Then hold up your hand and be sworn; *do you solemnly swear that you will not take up arms against this Government?*"

*I*—"Yes, I swear to that."

Mr. Rippetoe was soon at my side and the Captain said, "now you can return to the place from whence you came."

I said, "Captain, let me drive Mr. Well's team back with me."

*Captain*—"Can't; I dread it."

*I*—"Well, the two old lame mules in front; they will do you no good in the service; let us each have one to ride home."

*Captain*—"It is against my oath to do any such thing."

*I*—"Well, Captain, there is that saddle; I borrowed it from old Rube, a real good old negro; you won't take that."

*Captain*—"You couldn't take it to him if you had it."

*I*—"I would just hide it here in the brush and tell old Rube, and he would come and get it—he knows all this country."

*Captain*—"Do you ever go to Kansas City?"

*I*—"I have been there often."

*Captain*—"I can't spare it now; the next time you go to Kansas City you come to Camp Union, on the hill, and I will either leave the saddle there or pay for it; you can come and get it for him."

*I*—"All right, good bye"; and we shook hands with the Captain and started. We had not gone twenty yards when the Captain called to us to come back; we looked at each other, looked toward the brush, but was not long in turning back; the Captain had a little blank book in his hand and said that he had forgotten to take down our names; we gave our full names. He again told us that we could go, and we could hardly keep from running we felt so light and free. We crossed the branch and took the road for home. We had not gone far when Mr. Rippetoe squatted down and crept into the tall grass and wild sun-flowers; I followed as quickly as I could. With our heads close to the ground, we could hear a tramping sound, but it did not sound like horsemen. I whispered, "Perry, what did you see?" "I don't know," was his reply. I finally ventured to part the grass and peep out. I saw that it was a herd of cattle going toward the creek. I said, "Perry, it is nothing but cattle going for water." He said, "I can stand it if you can." We went ahead then on quick time until within about four miles of New Santa Fe, when a thunder storm came up; we took refuge in a little vacant house near the roadside. As the rain came rattling down and the thunder jarred the windows, I lay down among the pea vines on the floor and was soon asleep. My friend,

Mr. Rippetoe, was more cautious; he had been west among the wild Indians and knew how to keep a sharp lookout. The shower soon passed over, my friend called to me; remembering where I was, I sprang to my feet. We arrived at New Santa Fe at daybreak. Seeing a light burning, we knocked at the door of Mr. A. R. White. Mrs. White came to the door; she was excited and talked very fast. She said, "the Federals have been here and taken Mr. John Davis' goods; we have been up all night; the men are all hid; the soldiers have been all over the neighborhood; we heard guns firing all around and no telling who is killed; but they are all gone now, won't you come in?" We said, "no, thank you; they have had us and we must go home." I soon saw my friend Rippetoe buckle on his heavy revolver.

As he started south, he said: "they have forced that oath upon me, and I don't feel bound by it. They will never get me again alive."

After the war was over I saw a stranger turn into the yard; he looked as if he was tired; he came toward the house; I recognized him as my old friend, Perry Rippetoe. As I took his hand I noticed that his revolver was gone, and he had on a palmetto hat that had been made and presented to him by the ladies in the extreme south. He said, "I heard that you were living here, and determined to stop and see you before going home." Since that time we both have been permitted to live peaceable and quiet lives at home.

## CHAPTER XV

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### THE DRAKE CONSTITUTION

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POLITICAL SITUATION AT CLOSE OF CIVIL WAR—DRAKE CONSTITUTION  
ADOPTED—THE "TEST OATH"—REGISTRATION NOTICE—ELECTION INCI-  
DENTS.

In the year 1865, the Civil Government of the state of Missouri, was under the full control and full power of the Republican party. There was hardly a township in the State of Missouri that was not controlled by them and members of that party in full control. After the close of the war a great many Confederate soldiers were returning to their homes, and after their defeat, they of course were in direct opposition politically to the Republican party. The Republicans, fearing the result of an election, if those men were allowed to vote, conceived an idea of adopting a new constitution for the state, and insert an amendment into the constitution, a section that would forever bar them from being voters.

That constitution was adopted on the 8th day of April, 1865. It was in a manner dictated by Charles D. Drake, of St. Louis, and was nicknamed the "Drake Constitution." It was submitted to a vote of the people for ratification on the 6th day of June following and on the first day of July, the votes having been counted, Thomas C. Fletcher, governor of the State of Missouri, issued a proclamation declaring the constitution adopted and in force on and after the 4th day of July, 1865.

Among the provisions of that constitution, Article III: "At an election held by the people under this constitution, or in pursuance of any law of this state, or under any ordinance or by-law of any municipal corporation, no person shall be deemed a qualified voter who has ever been in armed hostility to the United States, or to the lawful authorities thereof, or to the government of this state, or has ever given aid, comfort,



countenance, or support to persons engaged in any such hostility; or has ever, in any manner, adhered to the enemies, foreign or domestic, of the United States, either by contributing to them, or by unlawfully sending within their lines, money, goods, letters of information; or has ever disloyally held communication with such enemies, or has ever advised or aided any person to enter the service of such enemies; or has ever by act or word, manifested his adherence to the cause of such enemies, or his desire for their triumph over the arms of the United States, or his sympathy with those engaged in exciting or carrying on rebellion against the United States; or has ever, excepting under overpowering compulsion, submitted to the authority or been in the service of the so-called "Confederate States of America"; or has ever left this state and gone within the lines of the armies of the so-called "Confederate States of America" with the purpose of adhering to said states or armies, or has ever been a member of, or connected with, any order, society, or organization inimical to the government of the United States, or to the government of this state; or has ever been engaged in guerrilla warfare against loyal inhabitants of the United States, or in the description of marauding commonly known as "bushwhacking"; or has even knowingly and willingly harbored, aided or countenanced any person so engaged; or has ever come into, or has left this state for the purpose of avoiding enrollment for, or draft into, the military service of the United States; or has ever, with a view to avoid enrollment in the militia of this state, or to escape the performance of duty therein, or for any other purpose, enrolled himself, or authorized himself to be enrolled by or before any officer as disloyal or as a Southern sympathizer, or in any other terms indicating his disaffection to the government of the United States in its contest with rebellion, or his sympathy with those engaged in such rebellion, or having ever voted at any election by the people in this state, or in any other of the United States, or in any of their territories, or under the United States, shall thereafter have sought or received, under claim of alienage, the protection of any foreign government, through any consul or other officer thereof, in order to secure exemption from military duty in the militia of this state, or in the army of the United States; nor shall any such person be capable of holding in this state any office of honor, trust or profit under its authority, or of being an officer, councilman, director, trustee or other manager of any corporation, public or private now existing or hereafter established by its authority, or of acting as a professor or teacher in any educational institution, or in

any common or other school; or of holding any real estate or other property, in trust for the use of any church, religious society or congregation. But the foregoing provisions in relation to acts done against the United States, shall not apply to any person not a citizen thereof, who shall have committed such acts while in the service of some foreign country at war with the United States, and who has, since such acts, been naturalized, or may hereafter be naturalized under the laws of the United States; and the oath of loyalty hereinafter prescribed, when taken by any such person, shall be considered as taken in such sense."

By virtue of laws passed by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri under their constitution, all voters were required to register, according to Section IV as follows:

Section IV. The General Assembly shall immediately provide, by law, for a complete and uniform registration, by election districts, of the names of qualified voters in this state; which registration shall be evidenced of qualifications of all registered voters to vote at any election thereafter held; but no person shall be excluded from voting at any election, on account of not being registered until the General Assembly shall have passed an act of registration and the same shall have been carried into effect; after which no person shall vote unless his name shall have been registered at least ten days before the day of the election; and the fact of such registration shall be not otherwise shown than by the register, or an authentic copy thereof, certified to the judge of election by the registering officers, or officer, or other constituted authority. A new registration shall be made within sixty days next preceding the tenth day prior to every biennial general election; and after it shall have been made no person shall establish his right to vote by the fact of his name appearing on any previous register.

Section V. Until such a system of registration shall have been established every person shall, at the time of offering to vote, and before his vote shall be received, take an oath in the terms prescribed in the next succeeding section. After such a system shall have been established, the said oath shall be taken and subscribed by the voter at each time of his registration. Any person declining to take said oath shall not be allowed to vote or to be registered as a qualified voter. The taking thereof shall not be deemed conclusive evidence of the right of the person to vote or be registered as a voter; but such right may, notwithstanding, be disproved. And after a system of registration shall have been established, all evidence for and against the right of any person as a qualified



voter shall be heard and passed upon by the registering officer or officers, and not by the judge of election. The registering officer or officers shall keep a register of the names or persons rejected as voters, and the same shall be certified to the judge of election; and they shall receive the ballot of any such rejected voter offering to vote, making the same, and certifying the vote thereby giving as rejected; but no such vote shall be received unless the party offering it take, at the time, the oath of loyalty hereinafter prescribed.

Section VI. The oath to be taken, as aforesaid, shall be known as the oath of loyalty, and shall be in the following terms:

"I, A. B., do solemnly swear, that I am well acquainted with the terms of the third section of the second article of the constitution of the State of Missouri, adopted in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-five, and have carefully considered the same, that I have never directly or indirectly done any of the acts in said section specified; that I have always been truly and loyally on the side of the United States against all enemies thereof, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the United States, and will support the constitution and laws thereof as the supreme law of the land, any law or ordinance of any state to the contrary, notwithstanding; that I will to the best of my ability protect and defend the Union of the United States and not allow the same to be broken up and dissolved, or the government thereof to be destroyed or overthrown under any circumstances, if in my power to prevent it; that I will support the constitution of the State of Missouri, and that I make this oath without any mental reservation or evasion, and hold it to be binding on me."

Laws were passed authorizing the appointment of registering officers and the governor by virtue of said laws appointed registering officers throughout every county in the state. The officers appointed for Jackson County gave notice as follow:

#### "REGISTRATION NOTICE.

The several registering officers appointed to make registers if the qualified voters in the several election districts of this county, will be in session for the purpose of registering all persons entitled to register as voters, in their respective districts from 8 o'clock a. m. to 6 o'clock p. m. on each and every Saturday between the twentieth day of Sept., 1866, and the fifteenth day prior to the sixth day of Nov., 1866, said Saturdays being the 22nd and 29th days of Sept., 1866 and the 6th, 13th and 20th



days of Oct., 1866, at the usual place of voting in each election district of said county as follows:

At Independence, Blue township, 1st election district.

At Sibley, Fort Osage township, 2nd election district.

At the Baptist church, Sniabar township, 3rd election district.

At Lone Jack, Van Buren township, 4th election district.

At the school house, near James Wilson's, Prairie township, 5th election district.

At Hickman's Mill, Washington township, 6th election district.

At Westport, in part of Kaw township, 7th election district.

At the court house, Kansas City, 8th election district.

At Metropolitan Hall, McGee's Addition, 9th election district.

Pursuant to that notice the men of Jackson County began to register. Among them were men who had been pioneers of the county and had come from other states, and made for themselves homes in Jackson County. A great many of them had belonged to the Whig party before the Civil War and were staunch Union men, but owing to the depredations of men from Kansas and other states, wearing the uniforms of Federal soldiers, whether legally enlisted or not, began making raids through the county and burning and robbing indiscriminately. Such actions aroused the opposition of the younger men of the county and made them very hostile to the perpetrators of such deeds. As a consequence a great many of them enlisted in the Confederate army, others joined the "bushwhackers" and were of course driven from home. Whilst their fathers were Union men and were in full sympathy with the United States government they could not control the actions of their sons. They, as American citizens and citizens of Missouri, applied for registration and qualification as legal voters. The board of registering officers met in Independence as a board of appeals to pass upon the qualifications of all such men. If any person had objections against such men, they filed them with the board and the board would hear their case and decide whether or not his name should be allowed to remain on the list of legal voters. The session of the board was held in the circuit court room in the city of Independence, and is the same room now occupied for that purpose. During the sitting of said board, the court room was crowded to its utmost capacity with the men who had been objected to, their friends and neighbors and sons. One of the members of said board was a Captain Byrnes, a man who had lately come into the county from some of the far eastern states and had been appointed on the board. A few days

previous, some one had gone before a magistrate and filed a complaint against Captain Byrnes for assault and battery. A capias for his arrest had been issued, upon said charge, and placed in the hands of L. W. Swearingen, who was then constable of Blue township. Mr. Swearingen had been a Federal soldier and was a high minded, honorable, brave man. A man that would do his duty under any and all circumstances. He came unto the court room while the board was in session, walked up to Captain Byrnes and whispered to him that he had a capias for his arrest and asked if he would submit to arrest and go quietly with him. Captain Byrnes turned to the sheriff and ordered him to put Swearingen out of the room. Swearingen again asked, "Will you go with me quietly?" Byrnes replied that he would not. Swearingen immediately caught him by the collar with his left hand and jerked him backward over the chair on which he was sitting. As he did so, he drew his own revolver with his right and cocked it and replied, "I'll see that you do go." At sight of the revolver in the hands of Swearingen, the crowd immediately expected to see firing commenced. In the room were a great many of the men who had seen service in the Confederate army. They were all armed with one or two six-shooters apiece and they immediately began to draw theirs, expecting serious trouble. Those who were unarmed broke for the door and went out like rats deserting a sinking ship. In an instant there must have been from fifty to one hundred revolvers drawn and the click from the men cocking them, sounded like a box factory. As soon as Byrne could recover his feet, he stood up and said to Swearingen, "Yes, I'll go with you now." The sight of so many drawn revolvers worked a change in his feelings and he submitted quietly to arrest and went out with Swearingen.

At that time there were camped in the western part of the town a company of United States soldiers, who had been sent here for some purpose, no one knew for what, unless it was to help control the election. A young man in the street, who saw the crowd come rushing through the court house and rode furiously down the street to the camp and told the captain there was a riot at the court house and he must come immediately. The captain hurriedly collected his men and they came on the double quick to the court house as fast as they could come. The day was hot and when the men reached the court house they were all very hot and tired. By that time the court house had been entirely cleared and everything was peaceable. Men were standing around the court house yard in small groups talking and laughing with no sign of a riot. The captain was mad that he and his men should have been called to make such a run for

no cause and he remarked that he was not here in the interest of politics nor politicians, but to keep peace and as every thing seemed peaceable, he saw no reason for his interference. He took his men and immediately returned to camp. The effect of this episode on the registration board was wonderful. The action of the men had convinced the board that they would stand for no foolishness, but the law should be complied with and men should have a fair hearing. That day's work broke the spirit of the Republican party of Jackson County. A great many of them were new comers into the county and had not been residents of the state of Missouri long enough to make them legal voters, and they thought it would be a dangerous proposition to mix in the matters in which they did not have a voice in controlling.

Fortunately the cooler heads prevailed and prevented any bloodshed, for as soon as the older men began to see the younger men drawing the pistols they began to counsel them not to be hasty and not to use them unless they had to. That was the wisest of counsel, for had there been a single shot fired, there is no telling how many men would have been killed and wounded.



## CHAPTER XVI

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### PIONEER TIMES

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A PIONEER'S EQUIPMENT—THE BROADAX—JAMES SHEPHERD, PIONEER—"PETER AND SAM"—CUTTING WOOD—JUDGE HICKS.

When the old settler decided to stop and make a home, he needed tools to work with. First he needed his rifle and ammunition to kill game for his meat, a broad axe, a chopping axe, a grubbing hoe, a few cooking utensils, a shovel, plow and a few small tools such as augers of different sizes, a hatchet, hand saw and a few files, etc.

The broadaxe, with its crooked handle, with which to hew the logs to build his cabin and what few outbuildings he needed. As soon as the boys of the family got large enough to handle the broadaxe, he was taught the art, for it was an art to dress the logs down to a smooth surface on at least two sides, and the other side also if it was necessary to make them fit.

One, James Shepherd, came to Jackson County from Virginia in 1824. He brought a family of slaves with him, and like the rest, the men had been taught the use of the broadaxe. Among his slaves were two brothers, named Peter and Sam, and as the custom was in those days, they took the name of their master, hence they were known as Pete and Sam Shepherd. They were both powerful men and were known as about the strongest men in the country, either white or black. When the contract was let for the building of the first court house at Independence, the contract went to Mr. Shepherd and Sam hewed the logs. Most of these logs can be seen now in the old building standing on the rear of the city hall lot as a mark of his handicraft.

Mr. Shepherd died about 1853 or 1854 and when his slaves were sold for the purpose of dividing the estate among his heirs, Sam was bought

by Edwin A. Hickman, who then owned what is now Fairmount Park and on which there was a combined grist and saw-mill. In addition to running the mill, Mr. Hickman farmed also. Mr. Lewis Jones, one of the early settlers had built a hotel at the northwest corner of the square where Watkins' Music Store now is located and had named it the "Nebraska House". He conceived the idea of having a huge sign painted and put up. He went to Mr. Hickman and asked if he could hire Sam to hew a big post for him on which to put his sign. Mr. Hickman replied that he could. Mr. Jones then began inquiring to find the tallest straight white oak tree that he could get. He finally found one nearly 30 feet high, perfectly straight, without knots. He had it cut and brought it to town and sent for Sam. When Sam came, Mr. Jones said to him, "Now Sam, I want this log hewed to a six sided post and I don't want the marks of an axe left on it. If you do a first class job, I will make you a present of a nice hat and pair of shoes, when it is done, and I will go to the bar keeper in there and tell him if you want a few drinks while you are at the job, to let you have what you want and not to charge you anything for it." It was a big job to score the log down to where he was ready to commence. I do not know just how many days Sam was at it, but there was hardly a moment of time from the time that he commenced until he finished that there was not a crowd of from fifty to one hundred people watching him work. When it was finished, Mr. Jones had a heavy square frame made and morticed into the top of the post. It was then set just inside of the curb at the southwest corner of the hotel. He then had his sign made, just large enough to swing inside the frame nicely, upon one side of the sign he had the picture of a huge buffalo and on the other side the picture of an Indian painted. When finished, the sign was the admiration of every one and especially all the small boys and girls in town. The sign swung in the breeze until after the close of the war, although the paint had all wasted and faded off, long before. The hotel passed into other hands and the late Preston Roberts, who had bought the old Ralston farm just west of Independence bought the old post and had it taken up and sawed into proper lengths for ordinary gate posts and had them reset out on the farm where they were to be seen for many years afterward.

It was as a child, sitting out in the negro quarters on long winter nights, that I listened to Sam tell of his early life, when he first came to this country.

The black man was taught the use of firearms then, so that he could

be depended on to get game or fight Indians, as the case might be. For three years after Mr. Shepherd came, the only meat they had was wild game. The woods were full of deer, wild turkeys, prairie chickens, wild geese, quail and squirrels. They would kill the deer in the winter and salt it away for summer use. They would rarely kill turkeys or prairie chickens during the nesting season. The wild geese would go north to the breeding grounds in the summer and not return until late in the fall. The prairie chickens would go out south of town to the open prairie country for their nesting, and in the fall gather into great flocks and feed on the wheat and cornfields if they could find them.

In an early day, salt was found in Saline County and the water had to be boiled out of it, and it took a great deal of wood to do the boiling. Mr. Shepherd used to hire Sam and Pete out to the salt makers to cut cord-wood during the winter months. They were both experts with an axe and in ordinary timber they considered cutting four cords of wood each day only a fair day's work. Sam told me once that the only man that he ever saw that could beat him cutting wood was Judge Russell Hicks.

Hicks drifted into Saline County from where, no one heard him say, for when asked where he was from, his unusual answer was, "It's none of your business, Sir, where I am from." He would cut wood all day and then gather dry hickory bark and wood, make a fire, lie down and read law by the light of the fire. In that way, he made his start as a lawyer and he became one of the ablest lawyers of this western country. He located in Independence about 1828, and the first record that can be found of him was as a deputy clerk of the county court under Samuel C. Owens. He soon built up a good law practice and began to buy land. At one time he owned about 1,600 acres in Van Buren township, around where Hicks City now stands. He owned a good many slaves and depended upon them to run his farm while he was away. He was elected judge of the circuit court when this district was comprised of half a dozen or more counties. It was the custom then for judge and lawyer to travel on horse-back from one county seat to another and they would sometimes be away from home for a month at a time.

Like almost every thing else that is done by proxy, Mr. Hicks' farming operations were not very successful. It is told that once a friend said to him, "Judge, how are you getting along farming?" He replied, "It takes about all that lawyer Hicks can make to keep farmer Hicks from starving."



The Judge was a very peculiar man in disposition. He was never known to laugh and seldom smiled. He despised women, children and dogs. He was never married and would not speak to a woman if he could avoid it. He was always very abrupt and positive in his speech and never used any more words than he had to and then always to the point. The judge had one besetting sin. He was a periodical drinker. He would go for months and never take a drink of liquor, then he would start in and never let up until "John Barleycorn" would lay him so low that he could go no further, then he would call in a doctor to straighten him up.

On the bench he was rigid with everybody. Lawyers, jurors, officers and all, but, at all times, just. He was holding court at Harrisonville, when an old law partner of his, J. Brown Henry, of Independence, was trying a case. Some dispute arose as to the admission of certain evidence in the case and Mr. Henry differed with his honor to such an extent that he retorted rather hotly. The judge turned to the clerk of the court and said, "Mr. Clerk enter up a fine of \$20 against Mr. J. Brown Henry for contempt of court." Mr. Henry immediately with all the politeness of a dancing master, replied, "Your Honor, you know that I am a long ways from home and don't happen to have that much money with me, and I don't want to lay out the amount of the fine in jail, and will you be kind enough to loan me that much money to pay it with?" Not a muscle of the judge's face changed. He turned to the clerk and said, "Mr. Clerk, enter up an order remitting the fine of J. Brown Henry, just assessed against him for contempt of court, the State of Missouri is more able to lose it, than I am." It was a closed incident and neither of them ever spoke of it afterwards and it made no difference.

When Judge Hicks was on the bench there was a law of the State of Missouri that made it a capital offense for a slave to attack a white women. A negro man of Saline County had been indicted under that law and was to have been tried at Marshall. The judges went there, opened the court and ordered the sheriff to summon a jury for the purpose of trying him. The jury was called, examined and sworn to try the case according to law. The completion of empanelling and swearing in the jury was completed just at noon and put in charge of the sheriff with instructions to them to be back at one o'clock to proceed with the trial. The judge walked to the hotel for his dinner and while the deputy sheriff was taking his prisoner back to jail to give him his dinner a mob quickly took the prisoner from the deputy and hung him to a tree in the court house yard.

When the judge learned of what had been done he was wild with indignation. He went to the court house, mounted the steps and made them a speech. He called them everything his mind could think of that was low down, cowardly and mean and wound up by shouting, "If God Almighty will give me strength to ride out of Saline County today, I will solemnly swear I will never put my feet in the d——d dirty place again." He went to the hotel and paid his bill and to the livery stable, got his horse and rode to the nearest telegraph office and wired his resignation to the governor. He kept his vow and never entered Saline County again, as long as he lived, although frequently asked to take cases there. Financial disaster overtook him during the Civil War. His slaves were freed, his stock stolen and his farm buildings destroyed. He died at Warrensburg almost penniless, about the year 1875, and when he died, another one of the strong men that had helped to subdue the wilderness passed away.

## CHAPTER XVII

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### OLD SETTLERS OF JACKSON COUNTY

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FIRST MEETING IN 1871—FIRST PAPER READ—A MEETING IN MARCH, 1872—MEMBERSHIP—REUNION AT INDEPENDENCE—ATTENDANCE—PROGRAM—DANIEL MORGAN BOONE—ADDRESSES BY W. H. WALLACE, GEORGE C. BINGHAM, JOHNSON LYKINS—PRIZES AWARDED—RECOLLECTIONS BY J. C. MCCOY—MEMBERS PRESENT—"OLD SETTLERS" BY MARTIN RICE—OLD PERSONS PRESENT—RE-REGISTERED LIST.

The old settlers of Jackson County held a meeting in Kansas City, Dec. 30, 1871. It was called to order by Dr. Lykins, and Walter Bales was made chairman and Daniel Geary secretary. On motion of Col. R. T. Van Horn, the settlers of 25 years proceeded to organize the "Old Settlers Historical Society of Jackson County." The following names, with date of residence, were then recorded: David Dealy, Feb., 1823; John R. Swearingen, March 6, 1825; John Majors, March 6, 1825; settled in Lafayette County in 1819; Thomas Pitcher, Nov. 10, 1826; William Mulkey, 1826; Mobillon W. McGee, 1827; William Dealy, Feb., 1823; Walter Bales, Oct., 1831; John C. McCoy, Aug., 1830; Johnston Lykins, July 8, 1831; Samuel Campbell, Nov., 1834; William O. Shouse, Oct. 25, 1837; Ansel Collins, April, 1834; Levi W. Bradley, Dec. 17, 1833; John W. Polk, 1838; Lucius Carey, 1840; Major H. Alley, Dec., 1844; Frances M. Alley, Dec., 1844; Wallace Smith, Oct., 1841; James H. McGee, born in county 1837; William Bales, born in county Dec. 28, 1834; John C. Evans, born in county April 28, 1833; John L. Dealy, born in county Aug. 26, 1845; Daniel Dealy was elected president; Dr. Johnson Lykins, vice-president; and John C. McCoy, recording and corresponding secretary.





FIRST JACKSON COUNTY COURT HOUSE. BUILT IN 1827. RECENTLY REMOVED FROM ITS ORIGINAL SITE TO CITY HALL, INDEPENDENCE.



CITY HALL, INDEPENDENCE, MO.



A resolution was adopted that any citizen of twenty-five years' residence could become a member of the society by subscribing his name to the roll.

On motion of John W. Polk, the editor of each newspaper in Jackson and adjoining counties were voted honorary members of the society.

The following resolutions were then adopted:

*Resolved*, That the officers of this society be, and they are hereby authorized, to take such steps as may be necessary to the permanent organization of this society under the laws of Missouri and all such other action as may be necessary to the permanent organization of this society and carrying out of the object of the same, viz: the collection and preservation of the history of the settlement of Jackson County and western Missouri, its preservation and compilation.

*Resolved*, That the secretary be authorized to keep the list of members open for the enrollment of the names of those desiring to become members, and who come within the rule prescribed—a residence of twenty-five years—at any time, and all such are hereby made members of this society.

*Resolved*, That the President or Vice-President and Secretary shall have authority to call meetings of this society at any time and that six members shall constitute a quorum to do business.

*Resolved*, That John R. Swearingen be appointed Assistant Secretary at Independence, to receive the names of members and perform all the duties necessary for the eastern portion of the county, in the same manner as the regular Secretary.

R. T. Van Horn, John W. Polk, John C. Groom, Kersey Coates and Theodore S. Case were appointed a committee at that meeting to draft a constitution and by-laws for the society. After some other business by the society a paper was read by John C. McCoy.

#### THE FIRST PAPER READ BEFORE THE OLD SETTLERS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

This first paper was by John C. McCoy and is worthy a place in the lasting records of Jackson County: My Old Friends and Neighbors: You will agree with me, I think, that it is eminently right and proper for us to have occasionally a social friendly gathering of as many of the few remaining survivors of the first settlers of this favored region as can make it convenient to meet together, where we may interchange friendly greetings and recall almost forgotten memories of incidents and persons once familiar in "Aul Lang Syne," and at these meetings, like stand points



or mile stones by the roadside in life's journey, look back along the track of our past journey. A retrospect down the long dim outline of our past pilgrimage will doubtless be reflected with shadows and sunshine, with dark clouds and clear sky—will recall many long forgotten incidents and memories, some of them casting a shadow of sadness and gloom, and many of them lighted up with the joys and blessings of other days. From half a century to three score years and ten (and some even longer) have we been steadily borne onward as we hope toward a better land.

Not inappropriately might we compare a few venerable survivors like a few scattered trees of the old primeval forest, scattered by the storms and covered by the frosts of many winters, one after another their companions have lost their verdure, withered and have fallen, but what a vigorous dense growth has taken their place, what a wonderful transformation has the face of nature undergone within the recollection of us all.

Those of us who, during the past half century have been eye witnesses of the gradual but rapid development of this goodly land, can appreciate the change. In early youth we removed to and settled in a country universally known over the continent as the "Great West." We have until today remained citizens of this region, but are to-day citizens of the "Great Center." All of the vast territory almost unknown and untraveled, lying from the Mississippi westward to the Pacific ocean, was once known as the "Great West." Towns, steamboats, postoffices and children were named "Far West," in honor of that wonderful country. Persons hailing from that far-off country were regarded with peculiar interest in the old states as travelers from a distant land, and in the hall of Congress and in deliberative assemblies they were addressed as "gentlemen from the Far West,"—but where is that famous land to-day?—even the name is unused and unknown.

Col. Bartleson, Gov. Boggs, Joab Powell, Jim Baxter, Tom Rule and a host of the first pioneers of this region, long years ago chased that vanishing phantom land over the western plains, the snowy range, the Sierra Nevadas, and lost sight of it forever in the broad Pacific. Only one of the number, as far as I know, holds on to the chase, poor Tom Rule, who used to preach a pretty fair backwoods hardshell sermon, and boasted that with only hickory withes and a jack-knife he could make a very good wagon, refused to be comforted or give up the chase after his beloved "Far West."

Only last year I met him on Grand Avenue mounted on a mountain

mustang, his face, what little of it could be seen besides hair, looking very much like a small piece of buffalo meat, and with hair standing out like porcupine quills. He was spurring and belaboring his jaded mustang in an easterly direction, evidently, as I conjectured, bound to head off his favorite "Far West" as it came 'round the world from sun-rise; he may have given up the chase however at old Davy Burges', where he expected to spend the night. The panorama which has been unrolled before the eyes of old settlers who still survive, by the westward rolling wave of civilization and empire, has been so rapid and wonderful that we may with propriety exclaim: "A nation is born in a day."

The very ground upon which we now stand was only a few years ago a wild uncultivated wilderness, now transformed as if by magic into the busy, crowded, proud city we see it today. Truly, "the wilderness and the solitary place have blossomed like the rose." Let us endeavor to recall some of the features of the landscape then and now. A clearing or old field of a few acres lying on the high ridge between Main and Wyandotte, and Second and Fifth streets, made and abandoned by a mountain trapper. A few old, girdled, dead trees standing in the field, surrounded by a dilapidated rail fence. Around on all sides a dense forest, the ground covered with impenetrable brush, vines, fallen timber and deep impassable gorges. A narrow, crooked roadway winding from Twelfth and Walnut streets, along down on the west side of the deep ravine toward the river, across the Public Square to the river at the foot of Grand avenue.

A narrow, difficult path, barely wide enough for a single horseman, running up and down the river under the bluff, winding its way around fallen timber and deep ravines. An old log house on the river bank at the foot of Main street, occupied by a lank, cadaverous, specimen of humanity, named Ellis, with one blind eye and the other on a sharp lookout for stray horses, straggling Indians and squatters, with whom to swap a tin-cup of whisky for a coon skin. Another old, dilapidated log cabin below the Pacific depot. Two or three small clearings and cabins in the Kaw bottom, now called West Kansas, which were houses of French mountain trappers. The rest of the surroundings was the still solitude of the native forest, unbroken, only by the snort of the darting deer, the barking of the squirrel, the howl of the wolf, the settler's cow-bell and mayhap the distant baying of the hunter's dog, or the sharp report of his rifle.

This, my old compeers, is a brief and imperfect outline of the place in which we now meet, and which many of us will recognize as it appeared



to us then. I need not attempt to describe the picture as it appears to us now. It is spread out before us. The ceaseless hum of the busy, restless multitude, the rumble and clatter of a hundred locomotives and trains and a thousand vehicles of all degrees. The continual scream of the steam whistle and a thousand other sounds all contribute to make up a medley of discordant music, far different from that once heard by us around the "old field," from the sonorous cow-bell and the melancholy howl of the wolf, and tells us unmistakably, that something has happened in the neighborhood of the "old field," and we are confirmed in the conviction, when we look around us—miles of crowded thoroughfares lined with stately, magnificent buildings, the court house, the opera house, the towering Broadway and other hotels; the church spires and schools, and the greatest monument of genius and enterprise, the great iron bridge spanning the river, in short a wilderness of houses has crowded in and taken the place of the venerable six thousand year old forest once clothing these hills.

Well, my dear old friends, have you become accustomed and reconciled to the scenes which now surround us? They call it progress and manifest destiny and all that. We have this day called a halt at our milestone, to take a look backward along the line of march, and this reminds me that this writing was designed to be a short historical sketch of men and events, which were notable in this region forty years ago. As a historical sketch I confess it is a failure thus far, and without spinning my yarn to a length which would probably put some of my friends to dozing, I cannot do more now than to make a brief mention of a few of those historical facts.

The treaties between the United States government and the Osage and Kansas Indians, ratified in 1825, extinguished the Indian title to all the country lying in western Missouri, and what is now the State of Kansas, except the reservations for these two tribes situated in the latter State. These treaties opened the border counties lying in Missouri territory for the settlement of the whites, and the people were not slow to avail themselves of the privilege; consequently in 1825 the first settlers entered this county.

Fort Osage (Sibley), situated on the river near the northeast corner of the county of Jackson, was established in 1803 by Merriweather Lewis, the first Governor of Louisiana after its purchase, and continued as a military and trading post until the country was settled. Before 1825, Francis Chouteau, father of P. M., and brother of Cyprien Chouteau,



both now of Kansas City, had a trading post on the south bank of the river about three miles below the city. In 1826 every vestige of his improvements was swept away by the great flood which occurred in the Missouri River that year. This flood made a clear sweep of all improvements situated in the bottoms, but was no higher than that of 1844—and this reminds me that perhaps P. M. Chouteau, the present city collector, is the oldest resident, still living, in this county although not an old man. The county seat was located, and the town of Independence begun in 1827. When I passed through the town four years afterward, the square was thickly studded with stumps of trees. Westport was laid off into lots in 1833, J. C. McCoy, proprietor. Westport Landing is situated about three miles north of the town on the river, and has grown to be a place of considerable importance. A town was laid off there which was named Kansas City first in the year 1839, but the proprietors of the ground disagreed in some particulars and the town made but little progress until 1846, when it was laid out on a larger scale a second time (not with a grape vine), since which time it has been increasing with varying prospects.

But my friends I find that the historical part of this sketch must be curtailed. Your patience is doubtless already exhausted, and the space I ought in decency to claim has more than been exhausted, and I beg leave, therefore, to wind up my uninteresting yarn very rapidly, taking no thought of my going. I will in addition merely mention some of the most interesting and important events which now occur to me which have transpired in this county, viz:

The first advent of Mormons, 1830.

The Mormon war and expulsion, 1833.

The great flood in the Missouri, 1844.

The Osage war, 1836.

This little war has been overlooked by modern historians, not even mentioned by them for the last thirty years. I will at some future time try to rescue from oblivion the heroes and daring deeds of that glorious campaign. Suffice it now only to say that it was a military raid from the border against the Osage Indians. Some of those ruthless savages committed murder upon several hogs belonging to settlers near Westport. The command numbered 560 officers and men, consisting of one major-general, two brigadiers, four colonels, besides lieutenant colonels, majors, captains, lieutenants, chaplains, surgeons, etc., *ad infinitum*, being 98 officers to command 432 privates. It is needless to tell you that

the expedition was a success. Old Girand's squaws, paposses, and six other savages, if still living, have a sorrowful recollection that the way of the transgressor is hard. I will take occasion ere long to sharpen my pen and chronicle a few of the interesting facts connected with that famous war, but for the present, my old friends, I beg that you will allow me to close this hastily written, imperfect sketch to permit those of you who have fallen asleep during its delivery to wake up, and with a heart-felt expression of the hope that we all may meet again, if not here amid the transitory, vanishing scenes of earthly conflict, at least in that better land where weary, way-worn travelers may forever be at rest.

J. C. McCOY.

A meeting of Old Settlers was held in Kansas City the latter part of March, 1872. There was a large attendance of members of the society, the men who first broke the sod of Jackson County, and those who drew from the bowels of the earth the first fruits of the abundance that has since given its fertile fields the proud name they now bear. On account of the absence of the president, the vice-president of the association, Dr. Lykins, called the meeting to order, and in a short address announced its objects, which were to take what further steps were necessary to perfect their organization and to make the beginning of an authentic history of the county.

The proceedings of the first meeting, held at Kansas City, December 30, 1871, was ordered read, but owing to some oversight they had been left and their reading was therefore dispensed with.

Addresses were delivered by E. A. Hickman, J. J. Robinson and others; on motion of Mr. E. A. Hickman, Dr. Waldo was requested to write up the history of the Santa Fe trade.

The following new members were announced. The dates after each name indicate the time at which they first became settlers. Alexander Harris, November, 1839; David Waldo, May, 1828; James D. Meador, January, 1845; Redmon G. Silvers, born, May, 1833; Samuel Ralston, October, 1842; Thos. B. Swearingen, born, November, 1843; Benjamin F. Wallace, October, 1833; Beverly Todd, 1844; Samuel Robinson, born, November, 1833; John Lewis, July, 1830; William McCoy, June, 1838; Edwin P. Hickman, November, 1830; James B. Yager, June, 1837; John Dickey, March, 1846; John M. Wallace, October, 1833; John C. Wallace, May, 1843; Wiley M. Aiken, February, 1841; W. T. McLellan, October, 1844; Porter McLannahan, August, 1841; Edwin A. Hickman, October,



1840; Reuben Wallace, October, 1833; John Wilson, April, 1834; Redmon D. McKinney, October, 1825; Hugh L. Dodds, September, 1839; C. R. Barnes, March, 1839; Philip Uhlinger, May, 1840; Martin L. Kritzer, 1838; Jaqueline A. Lobb, October, 1836; J. H. McMurry, October, 1832; Wm. Botts, October, 1841; Benjamin F. Davidson, October, 1844; John W. Smart, July, 1842; John A. Overfelt, September, 1841; Bennett Hale, April, 1833; Amos Allen, October, 1838; Henry C. Owens, born, February, 1838; William Parker, October, 1838; Perry G. Brock, born, March, 1831; Henry C. Parker, November, 1837; J. J. Robinson, September, 1843; Lynchburg Adams, October, 1819; W. C. Adams, born, March, 1836.

On motion, David Waldo, E. A. Hickman and the editors of the Independence papers, with Theo. S. Case, J. C. McCoy, and the editors of the Kansas City press, were appointed a committee to select historical notes.

The following resolution was offered by J. J. Robinson:

*Resolved*, That we invite all friends to give us short written sketches of any and all of the old or early settlers of Jackson, and of any event; and that such communications be addressed to the Chairman of our Historical Committee.

On motion, E. A. Hickman, John Wilson, J. J. Robinson, J. A. Lobb and Henry Parker were appointed a Committee of Arrangements for holding the next meeting of the Society.

It was also carried that a meeting should be held on the 4th of July, on the fair grounds at Independence. The committee were empowered to select speakers and arrange interrogatories for historical facts.

A committee, consisting of Geo. Sinclair, W. C. Adams, Warham Easley, Benj. F. Wallace, were appointed to enroll the names of old settlers as members, and forward them to the secretary, after which, and the transaction of some minor business, the Society adjourned.

#### OLD SETTLER'S RE-UNION AT INDEPENDENCE.

July 4, 1872, was a day long to be remembered by both the young and old of Jackson County—the events of which mark an epoch in the history of the county, over which the most pleasing recollections will ever linger. It was the assembling together of the old settlers—the pioneers who laid the corner stone of the present magnificent structure, and have been spared to witness its grandeur—who came to this section, some of them half a century ago, when it was a perfect wilderness, inhabited only by the red man.



They were met also by a younger generation, who, even in this latter day, reverence old age, and had come from every household to do honor to the pioneers of Jackson County.

The weather was all that could be desired—bright, genial, pleasant, and all nature seemed inclined to smile upon the scenes of the day. At an early hour the road leading to the fair ground was literally thronged with wagons, carriages, buggies, horsemen and pedestrians. At a later hour the train from Kansas City augmented the number, until the ample grounds could hold no more.

The gray-haired grandfather and grandmother, familiar with the events of the last century, were there perhaps for the last time—the middle aged man was there with his wife and bouncing children—young men, gallant beaux, blushing damsels—rosy lipped angels and innocent prattling children were all there. The farmer, the mechanic and the professional man for one day had laid aside business and assembled to honor the old settlers.

The members of the I. O. O. F. of Independence had formed in procession, preceded by the band, and followed by an array of children, marched to the grounds, where the first order of the day was the reception of the Kansas City delegation, after which a number of old settlers formed in line inside the amphitheater. Then followed an eloquent address in behalf of the youth to the Old Settlers by Capt. Turner A. Gill, of Kansas City, responded to in the most appropriate manner by Col. S. H. Woodson, of Independence. A sketch of the life of Dan'l M. Boone, of Jackson County, was given by that venerable old settler, Dr. Johnston Lykins, of Kansas City. A complete sketch of Independence, the county seat of Jackson, was read by John McCoy, of Independence. It was intensely interesting. A sketch of the lives of Judge Brooking, Richard Fristoe and others, was read by Rev. J. J. Robinson, of Raytown, and highly appreciated, as was also a sketch of the lives of S. C. Owen, Smallwood Noland and Sam'l D. Lucas, by Wm. McCoy. The historical sketch of Kansas City, by Jno. C. McCoy, of that place, received, and was deserving of great praise.

Just before the premiums were awarded, calls were made for Mr. Lynchburg Adams, the oldest settler in the county, who responded in a few interesting, appropriate and touching remarks.

Then came the most interesting event of the day—the awarding of premiums. Mr. Henry Noland and Elizabeth Noland received the elegant silver pitcher, as having resided the longest time in the county as

man and wife. They were married on the 11th day of January, 1826, her maiden name being Elizabeth Pitcher—so the old pioneer was a second time made happy with a *Pitcher*. In consequence of there being no justice of the peace in the county at that time, the couple were compelled to go to Clay County to have the ceremony performed. They were both Kentuckians, and had lived for forty-six years in this county, as husband and wife.

The splendid silver goblet was awarded to Mr. Lynchburg Adams, as being the oldest settler in the county, having been here nearly fifty-three years.

The presentations were made in a most happy and appropriate manner by Hon. A. Comingo, of Independence.

This closed the programme, and the immense throng dispersed, perfectly satisfied that a pleasant day had been enjoyed, and one that will often be reverted to with feelings of pride and pleasure. The meeting of old friends, who will perhaps see each other no more in human form, the respect paid them by the younger and still younger generation, the happy strains of music, gushing songs, and the delightful repast, all combined to render the occasion a peculiarly happy one. May the old settlers of Jackson live to witness many more scenes of a similar nature!

#### SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF A SON OF DANIEL BOONE.

The following sketch by Dr. Johnston Lykins, of Kansas City, was read at the Old Settlers meeting at the fair grounds, near Independence, July 4, 1872:

*Ladies and Gentlemen of the Old Settlers Association, and Fellow Citizens:*

“I am called upon to speak of the life and incidents in the life of the late Daniel Morgan Boone, son of the far-famed pioneer of our sister State, Kentucky. In the discharge of this duty, I can, at present, give but a glance at the character of this strange and wonderful man, whose worth and merit were only understood by his compeers, and whose memory is fast passing away. But I promised, should my life be prolonged, to gather up the facts and events of Daniel M. Boone’s life, and place them in your hands for perpetuation. In order to fully comprehend the worth and character of the man of our subject, it is necessary that we should glance back to that period where the past is as dark as the future. At the time of the landing of our forefathers on the Atlantic shores and settlement at Jamestown, our great West was utterly unknown to civilized men. No one from the walks of literature, or culture, had ever looked



upon its grandeur, or gazed upon its beauties. The mighty river which sweeps by our northern boundary had never mirrored the face of other than the wild and rude nomad of its banks. Far removed from the din of commerce and the clatter of busy man, it slumbered in the embraces of an unwritten age, powerless to assert its beauties, or to extol its magnificent wealth in climate, soil, minerals and all that challenges fitness for the seat of empire.

"About the year 1673, Marquette, the French Jesuit, in pursuit of savage tribes to save or enlighten, was the first to near the shores of the mighty Missouri, and to gaze upon its angry and turbid waters. Close upon the track of this disciple of Loyola and herald of the cross, followed the devotees of Mammon, the fur traders of France, Spain and other lands, were established at Portage De Sioux, St. Louis, Kaskaskia and St. Charles, and while our State was yet a province of Spain and afterward of France. The objects sought by these early comers to the Missouri Valley were purely mercenary and for the Indian trade, and in no sense in the promotion of agriculture or civilization, and hence their numbers were small, confined for many long years to the wants of the Indian trade. It matters not that the rich and varied soil tempted to the plow and the sickle. For these the happy and volatile Frenchman, and the gay and chivalrous Spanish cavalier had no taste. They sought only the rich furs of our plains and streams, and found in Indian life a happy escape from the trammels and conventionalities of civilized societies. For these the mighty West might have remained a wilderness for ages to come. At the time of which we speak no honey-bee, the accompaniment of civilized man, had ever been seen this side of the Mississippi, or had ever sipped the honey of Missouri's flowers; no tiller of the soil with his family had ever crossed the Father of Waters or built his rude cabin within this mighty valley. Laclede, the ancestor of the great Chouteau family, had not yet pushed his heavy batteaux against the stubborn current of the Mississippi from New Orleans to St. Louis, and long before the celebrated Lewis and Clark had reached this port in the month of June, a stranger—a strange being—was discovered on the east bank of the Mississippi opposite St. Louis making signals. After many hours of fruitless effort a canoe was dispatched for him. That stranger, strange being, a mere stripling, was Daniel Morgan Boone, the representative, the pioneer, the leader and forerunner of the noble, toiling sons of the plow and the axe who have since filled our mighty State.

"Kentucky, the dark and bloody ground, under the pioneership of the elder Daniel Boone, was filling up with hardy and noble men, but no



white man with his family had dared to pass beyond the confines of their settlements east of the Ohio River. All the country from the Ohio to the Mississippi, was a wild wilderness, destitute alike of men or tenement, save him of the war-club and scalping-knife. Across this trackless and forbidding desert, occasionally a straggling trapper from the Spanish posts of the Mississippi, had found his way to Kentucky, and told wondrous tales of that far-off and goodly land. To these young Daniel Boone, our subject, listened with quiet delight, and they filled him with the same thirst for adventure which had inspired the bosom of his noble father with the desire to cross the Alleghany Mountains and penetrate the goodly land of Kentucky. The mind of young Daniel Boone was at once made up. Like his father, for him the wild beasts of the forest, nor the more fearful red savage, had any terrors. He resolved to go, but there was no one of like nerve or taste to accompany him, and he determined alone to brave the dangers of the way. Being eighteen years of age (a mere boy of his day), in the month of May, in or about the year 1787, mounted on a pony, he addressed himself to this perilous task by boldly steering without compass, chart or path for the Spanish post of St. Louis. When Columbus headed his little fleet out of the port of Palos, in Spain, in search of an unknown world, he had trustworthy ships and skilled companions in the art of navigation. Our young Boone when he turned his back upon Fort Hamilton, a post on the big Miami, just west of Cincinnati, and plunged into the dark wilderness forest, was alone. With a courage tamely denominated heroic, he went forward, rafting streams, killing his food by the way, sleeping in the dense jungles by night undisurbed by the howl of the wolf, the hooting of the owl or the scream of the panther. On the 30th day from Fort Hamilton, and without having seen a single human being, he stood and beheld the majestic Mississippi before him. He had so far won, but closely scanning the view far and near, he could perceive no signs of human beings and human habitation. He was perplexed, and knew not whether he was above or below St. Louis, the object of his search. He encamped and rested. He reflected that St. Louis was a trading post, and the tracks of the Indian horses might indicate the direction of the post. On closely inspecting a buffalo trail near by, he found that the pony tracks mostly ascended up the river. He pursued the trail, and came in sight of St. Louis on the opposite side of the river. There was no ferry and it was with great difficulty that he made his presence known. At length, to his delight, a canoe came and landed him safely in the little Spanish village where a most generous welcome was extended to him. Of the heroism

of this exploit I cannot now speak, much less can I here properly dwell upon the influence his coming at that time has had upon the destinies of our now great and prosperous State. Among these simple villagers, as a trapper, he made his home for some years. But of his life and various incidents connected therewith, I shall not now speak, reserving that part of my duty until a future occasion, devoting a few remaining remarks to the influence which he exerted in promoting the early settlement of the upper Louisiana territory, now the noble State of Missouri. After having explored the country from St. Louis to the mouth of the Kansas as a trapper, he devoted his attention to the procuring of the removal of his friends from Kentucky to this then garden portion of the world. To his noble father, Col. Boone, then an exile from the beautiful land of Kentucky, and a sojourner in the wilds of Western Virginia, he sent messages concerning the goodly land which he had found, and he came in 1795, drawing after him by his influence many of those hardy pioneers whose sons now fill our State. Daniel Boone, the younger, occupied himself in inducing emigrants to come from Kentucky and all parts of the country, he meeting the caravans of new comers in the wilderness and piloting them to this Eden of the West, and that the great pioneer of Kentucky, and the younger pioneer of Missouri, with their united influence and friends came to people our great State, and to found a Commonwealth destined to become the proudest and greatest of the American Union. Kentucky has re-claimed and borne back to the land he loved so well, the bones of her own great pioneer, and all that great State was moved when the remains of her noble Boone were laid to rest in her soil. The remains of our own great pioneer, no less worthy of a monument, rest in our midst, near Westport, within twelve miles of this spot, in an unmarked grave. Surely the pen of some historian will not suffer the memory of one so worthy to perish. Surely the State, our own Missouri, will not fail to honor him.

"This strange man, strange in his meek and quiet spirit, strange in the greatness and benevolence of his nature, in his heroism and disinterested goodness—first opened his eyes to the light of day, beyond the Blue Mountains, on the banks of the Yadkin, N. C. After a pilgrimage of over three score years, almost upon the western line of the State, and upon the, then, very verge of civilization, he closed them in death. Too generous to be accumulative, too liberal to hoard up, he died shorn of property and destitute of wealth. To this association I commend the task of perpetuating in history his memory, to the Legislature of our noble State, that of erecting over his remains a monument."



July 4, 1874, there was another Old Settlers' meeting at the fair grounds, near Independence, when it was estimated that at least 3,500 of the inhabitants of Independence, Kansas City, and other places enjoyed their Fourth.

The train from Kansas City on the Missouri Pacific leaving at 9:45 a. m. was crowded to its utmost capacity. Two extra coaches were added, each seat counted its three excursionists, the aisles and platforms were thronged, and upon the "round whirligig" of each brake was perched a happy, thoughtless picnicker, intent only upon getting to Independence, and of spending the day with one grand hurrah for the gay festivities, speeches, races and songs which were to constitute the celebration for Jackson County, 1874.

#### THE KANSAS CITY DELEGATION.

arriving at the place of destination found the gay throng already assembled, and, in an interest common to all, shook hands in friendly grasp and commenced the occasion in earnest. The grounds, though large in the extreme, were filled even to the smallest and most inconsiderable standing room. In the center of the inclosure was erected a large square lunch stand, and this was crowded around the day long. The speakers' stand had been in use for many years, the steps leading to the platform were broken, and the stand itself was fast crumbling to the ground.

The amphitheater was the scene of busy life from morning till nearly midnight. The seats were filled with thousands of visitors, each with programme in hand, watching and awaiting the ceremonies.

At about 10 o'clock the attention of the multitude was called to the speakers' stand and the speeches began. The introductory address was delivered by

MR. W. H. WALLACE,

of Kansas City, who spoke in an earnest manner, claiming the attention of his hearers from the beginning to the end of his very interesting and elaborate discourse. He spoke as follows:

*"Ladies and Gentlemen:—*There are times when the feelings of the human soul are so intense that they find no adequate expression through the medium of ordinary language. There are occasions in the history of every struggling, aspiring young man when, suddenly becoming the recipient of some feeble token of the regard or esteem of his fellow men, there swells up in his bosom a tide of gratitude so deep and so high, that



the tongue itself is drowned in its flow, and he stands perfectly mute in the presence of his benefactors. Thus stands your unworthy speaker to-day. For appearing before you as the humble receiver of the unexpected and unsolicited confidence and esteem of the Old Settlers, the hoary headed sages of my county, whose bare recognition I have always regarded as a lasting eulogy, I am unable to return any fit thanks for the honor they have conferred upon me, but must content myself with simply assuring them that, deep down in the inmost recesses of this heart of mine, there dwells a sense of gratitude which no circumstance will ever erase, no lapse of time can ever obliterate, and which no poor words of mine could possibly describe.

“To me there is something peculiarly beautiful, as well as becoming, in those little civilities and courtesies which are generally paid by a rising to a retiring generation. Surely there is no more appropriate custom in all the code of common politeness than that which requires that the young should bow in reverence to the old. Yea, I may say, no more sacred or binding duty in all the code of Ethics than that which teaches that we, who are in the morning or meridian of life, should look up with profoundest respect to those at its close—confessedly the worthiest of earth to become the objects of our veneration. Rhetoricians may talk as they please of hill and dale, and mountain and river; of the roaring cataract; the belching volcano; the bespangled firmament above, or the surging ocean beneath, as objects of beauty, grandeur or sublimity, but to me the purest type of the grand or sublime to be found in all the wide domains of the handiwork of God, is simply the Creator’s culminating work in its ripeness—the venerable gray-haired old man. To look upon one of these old warriors, who has withstood the rifts and shocks of time, and it may be for three score and ten years like some giant oak, bared his breast to the storms and forked lightnings of earth, now that the tempest is past and the quiet eve of life is about him, calmly leaning upon his staff, standing upon the boundaries of two worlds and looking back with complacent memory to the one and forward with bright anticipation to the other, is certainly the sublimest spectacle that has ever greeted these eyes of mine.

“How eminently appropriate then, to set aside a great celebration day like this, that we who are in the prime of manhood and womanhood may turn aside from the din and hurly-burly of the world to commemorate the heroic lives of that little host of aged ones, who still honor us with their presence, to pay our grateful homage at their feet, hold up

their noble examples once more for our imitation, and as they pass rapidly down the rugged hill, attempt to smooth their pathway in front of them, not forgetting at the same time to cherish a hallowed memory for those who are gone and to decorate their graves with the freshest and sweetest flowers we can pluck. As I sat at my window a few evenings since, meditating upon the sacred duty of this hour, I looked out, and yonder blazing king of day, that now hangs in meridian glory, had just finished his fiery course and hidden himself behind the western hills; I looked up, and immediately there sprang forth from the blue canopy of heaven a whole generation of stars and seemingly bowed their heads in reverent awe at his glorious departure. So, thought I, should the generations of men bend themselves in lowly, continual obeisance when one of our stately fathers has run his course through the brief day of life, and gone down forever in the night of death. I looked again, and the soft majestic moon rolled slowly on in her orbit, and in a few hours had buried herself beneath the horizon, and immediately another myriad of glittering orbs came silently forth, and though they shone still more brightly in the 'azure glow of night,' drew around them a deeper and heavier mourning as they sang together a melancholy requiem that the beauteous queen was no longer one of their number. So, thought I, should even children's children gather around and attune their voices to plaintive strains when one of our gentle mothers has accomplished her holy mission on earth, and, drawing about her the drapery of death, lays her down to peaceful slumbers in the tomb. If there is a single one in that vast concourse of young men which I have the privilege of representing upon this occasion who does not indorse the sentiments now being expressed, but who is so lost of all nobility as to attempt (as, with shame and sorrow, I have often heard them) to cast a reproach upon the dignity and sacredness of old age, he certainly deserves to be held up as the object of the just scorn and execration of every grateful being. Let him be assured that no bright future awaits him; his way is not upward, it is groveling and downward, and his end will be bitterness—yes,

“If such there breathe, go mark him well:  
For him no minstrel raptures swell;  
Living, he shall forfeit fair renown;  
And, doubly dying, shall go down  
To the vile dust from whence he sprung,  
Unwept, unhonored and unsung.”



"If, as some have seriously feared, that accursed day shall ever arise in the history of this great Republic, when the youth of the land shall have advanced so far beyond their fathers as to cease 'to rise up before the hoary head,' and 'young Americanism' shall have gone so far as to openly scoff and jeer at the venerable Elishas in Israel, then may you bid a long farewell to all our boasted freedom; then may you wipe completely out all that this hallowed day commemorates; then may you appropriately strike up the funeral dirge of moral and social happiness, and through the black darkness of universal anarchy, sound out the death knell of American liberty.

"But I am not only reminded upon an occasion like this, of the dignity of age and the veneration which is due it, but being told that it was also a time for the interchange of practical experience, I am reminded of my own checkered but mostly delightful stay in this the county of my adoption. When as a mere child, something more than seventeen years ago, I exchanged village for rural life and came with my father's family to this portion of Missouri, it seemed to me that I had suddenly been ushered into the very Eden described by the pen of Moses. And indeed if there is anything in universal prosperity, anything in overflowing abundance or aught in the rapturous intercourse of a united brotherhood, it certainly came as near it as ever did a favored spot on the broad earth. Joy then seemed to loom up in every soul; unity was the watchword upon every lip, and fraternal affection the ruling passion in every breast. Barns and storehouses were filled with plenty, and the winepresses of the land 'burst forth with new fatness.' Neighbor met neighbor in those days not as now miser meets miser, each to scan the purse of the other, but as brother meets brother with his heart in his hand. The very animals and rocks and hills and glens seemed to catch the joyous spirit of the times, and to revel in the all pervading beauty.

"When as a school boy I roamed our rolling prairies and gathered the flowers with which they were fretted, methinks now they breathed to heaven the fragrance of brotherly love; when as a barefoot I stood in the running brook, I can distinguish even now in its warbling waters the accents of by-gone purity, and when I lay me down to rest on the green grass under the shade, I hear piercing the silent air the mellow cooings of the dove of peace, and all around, beneath and above are bathing in the broad sunlight of happiness and prosperity.

"But so delightful a reign was not destined to be perpetual. It is a sad truth, that the choicest blessings are shortest in their visits to unde-



serving men. After but a few years, a black and ominous cloud was seen to protrude its terrible crest above the horizon, and ere we could prepare ourselves for the coming shock it came rolling onward and burst upon us in all the wild fury of civil war. The American Janus was thrown wide open; horrid, foreboding specters stood before me in my dreams, and the hideous 'dogs of war' went howling through the land. Ears till then only accustomed to the soft notes of peace, were suddenly affrighted with the loud alarm of battle, the rattle of musketry and the peal and roar of the wide-mouth cannon. Brother arrayed himself against brother, father against son, and son against father, and, casting aside the purest love of earth for the bitterest hatred of hell, plunged into the din and smoke of the contest and amidst expiring groans and demoniacal yells revealed oftentimes hand to hand in the bloody work of death. Where once was heard the merry prattling of the child or the sweet music of a mother's voice, the widow's cry and the orphan's wail rent the air. Our fair land, accustomed only to the light tread of the sons of peace, trembled beneath the heavy tramp of mustering squadrons, and its luxuriant verdure, hitherto bedecked solely with the white hoarfrost of morning or the silvery dew of evening, was dyed with the crimson tinge of human gore. Fire, Sword, Rapine, Death went on with their terrible work, until at length a poor, homeless fugitive, the last to cross the borders of my country, I cast back a long lingering look, not at a paradise but at a wide waste wilderness, where on many a silent chimney the solitary owl screeched out the shrill moan of our departed glory.

"But it has been beautifully said that 'there is no night without a morning.' After four years of scourging the hand of a beneficent Providence was reached down and the blackened cloud at least partially removed, and as we gazed upward we beheld once more the glorious sun of liberty peeping through its crevices. But, alas, its first rays fell upon an impoverished, ruined, but thank Heaven, not a downcast or dispirited people. The highest type of manhood is seen, the noblest feats of heroism are performed, not in the full blaze of prosperity when all goes well, but in the deep, dark hour of adversity when the man is crushed to the very earth, but when like eternal truth he rises again, shakes off the dust of oppression and prepares to regain his fortunes and vindicate himself in the eyes of the world. Such, without the slightest reference to either contending party, are the evidences of manhood which have portrayed, and the deeds of heroism which have been achieved under the most trying circumstances in the noble old county of Jackson. They are

mentioned not in the effort to recall any unpleasant remembrance or to awake in any breast the bitter feeling of the war, but because I conceive that there is to be found in the history of those times the crowning glories of many of our Old Settlers, and because by this just comparison we can then see the hardships they have endured and the obstacles they have overcome in the progress of the last ten years. I mention it, because I know at least one young man who is proud that it was not his lot to be reared in the sickly lap of luxury, but that he was called upon to share the necessity and watch the bright examples of just such a race of heroes. No, far be it from me, to attempt to throw an apple of discord into an assembly like this, for even this morning I have beheld if possible a still grander exhibition of Christian manhood than the one just mentioned, in that, I have seen the conquered and the conqueror 'clasp hands across the bloody chasm,' and that hardest of all divine injunctions, 'forgive thine enemies,' beautifully and practically illustrated.

"Today, as we look around us, instead of beholding a howling wilderness, we see a land of prosperity and plenty, and can count over the teeming thousands of the second county in the great State of Missouri. In ten short years by a series of triumphant progress almost unprecedented in the history of nations, we have emerged from the desolation of war, and now with a population of more than 60,000 inhabitants stand out to the gaze of an admiring world a little empire within ourselves, larger and stronger than the petty republics of ancient Greece, the primitive cradle of the liberties we now enjoy. Agriculture, science and all the peaceful arts again flourish in our midst, whilst upon our western border, on the banks and commanding the commerce of the valley of what is really 'the father of waters' there rises upon a thousand hills a hustling, growing metropolis that one day bids fair to bring the blush of shame to the cheek of ancient Rome, as she sat upon only seven hills, on the banks of the classic but insignificant Tiber. Whatever else may be said, harmony is again restored, the sweets of peace are again within our fruition, the olive branch again blooms upon the grave of the past, and even though a gauzy cloud may now and then bedim our sky, let us look forward with hope to a bright future, and once more in the pure atmosphere of free, open, independent thought and action, look up and thank the Giver of all Mercies that ours is indeed the citizenship of the 'land of the brave and the home of the free.'

"Although your patience has been already put to a much severer trial than was anticipated, you must be kind enough to permit me, in conclu-



sion, to pay a passing tribute to what is doubtless far the noblest reflection suggested by an occasion like this, for otherwise I should feel that I had come infinitely short of my duty, and fallen far below the dignity of this hour. There are those nice, flippant, airy, modernized ones, who have doubtless sneeringly called this 'the meeting of the old fogies.' Old fogy! I must confess that, to me, there is something noble in the term. They possess a god-like element of character, which, to our reproach be it said, seems now to have almost gone out of date—in a lax, vacillating, degenerate age—you always know just where to find them! See you yonder mountain, firmly planted in its base? It may not be covered with a particle of moss, nor be decked with the green foliage of herbs and trees; it may not be decorated with all the fantastic lattice-work and gingerbread of modern civilization; but there in its native, unadorned simplicity it stands; and all the storms and tempests of heaven may come and beat against it, but there it remains, unmoved and unshaken. Thus have I seen what you call the old fogy stand; and, though the billows of error beat against him, the machinations of men assailed him, and the whips of parties cracked around him, he stood there, and all the powers of earth and hell combined, couldn't move him. To come plainly to the point, as I here gaze down into the wrinkled faces of the sires of a former generation, I am reminded of those time-honored, immutable, glorious principles of our government, handed down to us, bedewed with tears, hallowed by the prayers and stained in the blood of our forefathers, and of which to our shame be it confessed, we are too often the ungrateful recipients. I am reminded that there was a time in the history of this nation, when all the miserable sham and deceit, and wire-working and trickery of policy and party were unknown, and when men planted themselves upon eternal principle; a time when there were 'giants in the land' who had but one heart, one purpose, one country, one God; a time when rulers ruled not for sordid pelf alone; when patriots struggled not for ambition, but for the good of their race, and when we stood out not a 'bye-word and hissing' to the nations, but the wonder and admiration of the world. How, if I had time, could I dwell upon so delightful a theme! How could I wish for my country a return of those happy days! Oh, how I could pray heaven for the gift to my own lax times of a few such immortal men; men who would dare to stand at the post of honor, men who lived not for themselves, but for others; men who cared not for majorities; men, who, in the midst of threats, and scorns, and ridicule, would not be afraid to do their duty; men who stand like mighty invincible rocks,



and roll back the tide of error and iniquity that now engulf the land. Would to God that I had an archangel's voice, for louder than ten thunders, would I sound it out through the length and breadth of this fair land, calling the young men to action, calling them away from the giddy whirl of modern life, to a just appreciation of the sacred trusts committed to their care. My fellow comrades, ye who hear me now, gather around, and here behold in the person of our fathers, the embodiment of that which is really substantial and sublime. Here contemplate types of grander proportions and more unfading beauty than ever yet the painter drew upon the glowing canvass, or the 'Grecian chisel awoke from out the sleeping marble.' Here let us come to emulate their example, and, like so many solar stars, place them high in the northern sky, and while the way is still lighted up, by the aurora borealis of their own effulgent lives, press onward to the attainment of their virtues. Yes, as valiant soldiers, let us come and take our places in the ranks of war, with the few battle-scarred veterans who still remain with us as our standard-bearers; and when amid the roar and smoke of the mighty contest, the tattered ensigns shall drop from their trembling hands, let us catch them as they fall, and bear them on to victory or to death.

"I am happy that my poor effort on this occasion is now to receive a response from just the kind of a man I have attempted to describe—the living portrayer of those independent traits and graces which we are all bound to love and admire—a man who always reminds me of an inexorable old Roman soldier at his post; a man who would not turn aside from the path of duty were all the execrable shapes of the infernal world to impede his progress; a man, who, in America's second but darkest hour of affliction, like the immortal Lafayette, threw aside his own self-interest, overcame the power of prejudice and magnanimously and defiantly bared his breast to the tyrant's bolt, in the cause of the oppressed. Let me assure you, sir, you have your reward. So long as there breathes a disinterested patriot's soul on Missouri soil; so long as the undying artist may perpetuate his genius on the painted canvas; so long as there lives a tongue to lisp the name of the true and brave; just so long shall you dwell in the fond memory of thousands; just so long shall your unfading productions embellish the walls of our habitations, and just so long shall the voices of an admiring people dwell with delightful rapture on the name of George C. Bingham."

At the conclusion of W. H. Wallace's remarks the next speaker was Gen. George C. Bingham. His response was as follows:

"In responding to the kind, considerate and eloquent address, which as a representative of the young men of this portion of the State, you have delivered to your gray-haired seniors of the same section, who in accordance with their annual custom, are here assembled, I state but the truth in affirming, that I feel myself but poorly qualified to meet the just demands of the occasion.

"The reminiscences growing out of the trials and struggles of the past—its successes, reverses, triumphs and defeats—constitute the history with which they are associated. This, so far as it relates to them, must soon reach its last chapter and last page, thence forward to be laid on the shelf, to form a portion of those annals which give to each succeeding generation the experience and garnered thought of its predecessors; tending thus to make the sons wiser than the fathers, and by so doing, force onward and upward that march of human progress, the measured step of which, we have reason to believe, will continue with accelerated pace when our mortality shall put on immortality, and the temporary sleep of the grave give place to the ceaseless activity of an endless life.

"On the other hand those whom you represent have but recently entered upon the stage of active life. Your history is yet to be made. How its fair and uninscribed pages are to be filled up, whether they shall exhibit a record of manly and patriotic deeds, of ill-directed and abortive efforts, or worse still, be blurred with transactions such as disfigure the sad and dark portion of the history of our tempted and erring race, are matters which yet belong to the unknown, and which the future only can reveal.

"Men who have supposed themselves drowning, and thus perishing without disease in the vigor of manhood, have testified, that all the transactions of their lives, both good and bad, passed in review before them in that brief and terrible moment.

"It is well known that very aged men, in the act of throwing off the wornout habiliments of this life, have frequently imagined that they were school boys again, conning over their lessons, or sporting on the lawn with the associates of their childhood. It seems indeed to be a law of our nature that impels us, as we approach the end of our earthly pilgrimage, to look back and survey the route over which we have traveled, recount the adventures and dangers, the mishaps and successes which have marked our journey, and by the blessed faculty of memory, with which we are so highly endowed, walk amidst the scenes, and enjoy anew the society of long-buried companions of our early life.



“Those of us who have chalked down our three score years, and our still more advanced and more venerable associates, have but little more to anticipate in our earthly future. The hopes which gave energy and elasticity to our movements in our younger days, can impel our sluggish blood no longer. They have either perished beneath the relentless tread of a harsh experience, or been realized by a reasonable fruition. They have nothing further to promise us in the brief space that intervenes between us and the terminus to which we are ticketed, and which marks the *finale* of all sublunary desires and expectation.

“But it is far different with you, and those whom you so creditably represent upon the present occasion. All that now appears to you is tinged with the roseate hues of the morning.

“From our own early experience we can safely venture the assertion that the active fancy of yourself, and of each of your young associates, is daily teeming with plans and purposes looking to the future, and abounding in promises of rich results, all seemingly assured to your yet inexperienced minds by the cheering fallacies of hope. Some of you have diligently qualified yourselves for the learned professions, and expect to achieve wealth and distinction therein.

“The tempting bait of official position which inspires alike the low craft of the politician, and the nobler ambition of the statesman, may reasonably be supposed to obtrude itself occasionally in the prospect which lies open before you. This is as it should be. Such aspirations are in complete harmony with the great design of our being, and stimulate to exertion that period of human life most capable thereof. And although the result of individual exertions in myriads of cases may fall immeasurably short of the expectations which prompted them, it is nevertheless, to human effort impelled by human aspirations that we are indebted for all those real, tangible and grand results which we now behold around us, and which confer the practical blessings of an advanced civilization on so many millions of the human race. Many of the most important and most wonderful of these results are to be credited to the genius, energy and perseverance of those whose surviving representatives and co-laborers are to be seen in the venerable forms and time-scarred visages which are here assembled. Within the comparatively brief period commencing with their birth, we shall scarcely go beyond the truth in affirming that more has been accomplished by man for the benefit and amelioration of his race than can be properly credited to the aggregated human effort of any preceding 500 years. When they drew their first breath,



the locomotive which draws the freight of nations over every quarter of our globe, had no existence even in the dreams of its immortal projector.

"The use of steam in propelling water craft was equally unknown, and had any one, at that period, predicted that the person was then living who would see the lightning of heaven subdued and put in harness by the genius of man, and its fiery speed utilized in transmitting instantaneous intelligence over every quarter of the inhabited earth, he would have been regarded as the wildest visionary that ever merited quarters in a lunatic asylum. But these and other miracles of human invention equally wonderful—and all contributing to the advancement of our race—by no means transcend in importance the redemption from savage sway, and the opening to emigrants from all lands, of this vast western territory which we inhabit. For this service, the millions who are to succeed us, and whose ballots are destined to shape the future policy of our great republic, will not fail to give a due portion of credit to the hearty pioneer—"the old settler"—who boldly ventured beyond the confines of civilization, and by the stroke of his ax, or the crack of his rifle, first broke the silence of the primeval forest.

"Daniel Boone and his hardy and adventurous associates, and the old time-worn settlers who are here today, are as fully entitled to the gratitude of our coming generations as the statesmen who have given organic form to our republican institutions, the generals who have led our armies to victory, or the Morses, Fultons and Stevensons who have enriched the world by their inventions. They have been leaders in a field which made leadership pre-eminently the position of hardship, danger and privation, requiring the constant exercise of those qualities of the head and heart which form the elements of the hero. In the full vigor of early manhood, they tore themselves from the associations in which they were reared, and boldly ventured out into untrodden paths to make available to civilized man the locked-up wealth of a region whose products are now burdening the channels of commerce, and feeding the hungry of distant lands. No discouragements were allowed to impede them in their perilous journeyings. Through malarious swamps and mountain passes, they pushed onward until their stakes were fixed on the virgin soil which was to be the future homes of themselves and children. Their unerring rifles furnished them the means of immediate subsistence. The axe and a few simple tools were all that they required in the construction of their primitive log cabins.

"These up, and affording shelter to their wives and little ones, the clearing and the corn field next appeared. The golden grain gathered therefrom, and the porkers fattened thereon, soon secured them the well known and substantial luxuries of frontier life. The dressed skins of the wild deer furnished the men and boys with outer garments, than which none could be better adapted to resist briers, brush, and the frosts of winter. The spinning wheel and the looms were set in motion in every cabin, and the fleece of a few sheep, and products of the flax or cotton patch were constantly being wrought by steady and dexterous female hands into shirts for the men and gowns for the women.

"Thus, without commerce or intercourse with the civilized world, from which they had separated, each sparse settlement, formed by their location, became a self-sustaining community, supplying from its own unaided resources those essential wants of life beyond which the temperate desires of its members seldom, or never extended.

"Against all assaults of the red men, banded together for their extermination, they heroically defended their infant settlements and successfully maintained their right to dwell upon and cultivate the soil which savage possession would have continued a perpetual wilderness. And it is this right to occupy and bring into use the unappropriated soil of the earth, thus bravely defended and maintained by our Old Settlers, which now constitutes the real basis of the title to every acre of land lying within the limits of our broad domain.

"It would be folly in me here to attempt even a brief recital of their heroic deeds of self-sacrificing services in the cause of civilization. Many of them occupy a conspicuous place in the written history of their country. Others will go down to posterity in traditions from father to son, and furnish material for the poet, novelist and painter for unnumbered years to come.

"Well merited, therefore, is the honor which you have so elegantly recognized as due to their venerable survivors who yet linger with us and give interest to this occasion by their presence. And when those of you have the good fortune to survive the dangers, accidents, and diseases which strew the journey of life with the wrecks of mortality, shall become the old men of Jackson County, and as such meet together as these venerable citizens now do, may your retrospections be as pleasant and satisfactory as theirs, and a life of patriotic devotion, integrity and usefulness equally entitle you to the remembrance and gratitude of posterity."

Following this the Old Settlers of the county, sixty-four in number,



formed in line and, headed by the band, marched in procession around the ring. This concluded and an hour of recess was allowed for dinner. Baskets filled with home food were hauled from their hiding places in the wagons, clean white cloths were spread upon the grass, gay couples ranged in order around the tables and the grounds fast assumed the look and shape of a real old-fashioned picnic.

After the sandwiches were disposed of the merry assembly was again called to order and Jacob Greggs, esquire, of Sniabar township, was introduced. He delivered a very interesting speech.

Dr. Johnston Lykins spoke as follows:

"I was appointed to prepare for presentation to you on this occasion brief sketches of the early French settlers of Jackson County. For this service the notice was too short and unexpected, and urgent business intervening, I have been unable to do more than to get up a list of the names of those early and hardy comers to our pleasant county, and have to beg your indulgence for further time and opportunity for sketches which may appear in the papers.

"Almost forty-five years ago, almost in youth, with a young wife and child, I came to this region and found here the most lovely and fertile country—in its almost virgin state—to be found anywhere under the broad expanse of heaven. The best country, the best people, and let me say, the best wives, sisters and mothers in the world.

"Old Settlers and New, I rejoice to meet you here today, to shake hands and to wish you a prosperous and happy future.

"Reference was made by the eloquent young gentleman who, in behalf of a younger generation addressed us Old Settlers, to the days of the past, and here allow me to say that when the early pioneers took possession of this land, we found on its highways no stage coaches or daily mails, on its rivers no steamboats, no railroads, no telegraph lines, no steam power in use, no cities, no towns, no churches or school houses, or improvements of any kind, save the rude and hasty structures prepared by our hardy and daring pioneers. In surrendering this, our noble charge, to you, a younger generation, to you young men before me, we do it with a mournful pleasure, because we are passing away. We pause today to recall with pleasure the remembrance of the wooed and cherished ones, the long list of our loved fellow pilgrims who sleep by the wayside of the past, and are admonished that our rest draws near. But in turning from you, perhaps never again to thus stand before you, I gladly and proudly point to a wilderness found by us fifty years ago, now budding and blos-



soming as the rose, with exultant feelings of joy, to the great net-work of railroad everywhere bisecting our country; to our multiplied telegraph lines flashing intelligence to every land; to our cities, our towns, our stately churches, our palatial halls of education, our floating palaces, and that type of civilization, intelligence and refinement present and before me today—a land filled with arts, sciences and wealth. So have we, your sires, discharged our trust.

“Such is the charge we surrender, as one by one we lie down to rest—a heritage—a land—the soil, the climate, the locality of which will compel this to become the cradle of the highest type of civilization, the center of the greatest activities, of commerce, the arts, sciences, and human progress, and from which shall go out a moral, religious and political power to bless the world.”

An address was then delivered by Col. R. T. Van Horn, on the “Commercial Future of Jackson County.”

In the meantime the judges had been busily engaged in receiving, taking down and counting the votes and names for the different prizes to be awarded. When completed they ran as follows:

For the oldest settler of Jackson County, an easy chair, value \$21.50, which was awarded to Mrs. Pitcher.

The names of the contestants for this prize, together with the year in which they first became resident, are as follows:

Mrs. Mary A. Pitcher, 1821; Wilson Lewis, 1822; Emanuel Bitter, 1823; Mrs. Flora A. Gregg, 1823; Col. James Lewis, 1825; Mrs. Polly Lewis, 1825; Jacob Gregg, 1825; Henry Noland, 1825; Mrs. Margaret Chambers, 1825; James Chambers, 1826; William Shepherd, 1826; Silas Hudspeth, 1827; Mrs. M. A. Irwin, 1827; Sloper Adams, 1828; Roliet Hudspeth, 1828; Joel Hudspeth, 1828; George Hudspeth, 1828; Mrs. M. P. Bell, 1828; Mrs. Mary Smart, 1829; Abraham Coger, 1829; Levi Potts, 1829; Mrs. Tobithe Silvers, 1829; Albert Vaughn, 1832; Landes Stayton, 1833; Mrs. Michael Rice, 1835.

For parent or parents of greatest number of children born in Jackson County, silver pitcher, goblet and waiter, value \$41. The contestants were few, as follows, David Daily carrying off the prize:

David Daily, 22; Nelson Warren, 20; Levi Montgomery, 19; Francis E. Johnson, 16.

For the oldest continued resident of Jackson County, an easy chair, value \$20.50. The entries were as follows:

Mrs. Mary A. Pitcher, December, 1821; David Daily, January, 1822; John Bogard, February, 1822; Larkin Johnson, November, 1822; Mrs. Jemima Russel, May, 1823; Mrs. Matilda Maxwell, August, 1823; John Majors, February, 1825.

As the two first and oldest names recorded had already been the recipient of one prize, and as none were allowed to receive but one, the chair was placed in the hands of the third, Mr. John Bogard, he having resided in the county over 52 years.

For the oldest native born citizen of Jackson county, then a resident, set of silver knives and forks. The following names were found recorded, which resulted in the first, Mrs. Margaret Christeson, now in her fiftieth year, having been born and lived since in the county:

Mrs. Margaret Christeson, March, 1824; Sarah A. McClanahan, April, 1828; C. B. L. Boothe, April, 1829; Nelson Adams, May, 1829; Fannie C. Twyman, April, 1829; Jesse Nolan, October, 1830; Landes Stayton, October, 1833.

The presentation speeches were made by Mr. Richard R. Reese, now of Leavenworth, Kansas, but for years one of the old Jackson County boys, in a fluent and acceptable manner, and as each would receive and bear off his or her prize, cheer upon cheer would ascend from the crowds around; and though there were many disappointed faces to be seen, the utmost good humor prevailed throughout, and none seemed to envy the other or to begrudge him the present.

Next in order came the foot race, booked for which there were six contestants, all of whom were over 65 years of age: Henry Donahue, Thomas Pitcher, Henry Tull, George W. Clair, Samuel Ralston and Bennett Hail.

From some unaccountable cause, however, but the first three ran for the prize, which consisted of a gold-headed cane, valued at \$15, which fell to the lot of the first, Mr. Henry Donahue, aged 70 years.

This last concluded the long and very agreeable programme provided for the day's entertainment, and gradually the buggies began to fill, horses were saddled and harnessed to the old country wagons, and by twos and threes the vast crowd began to move homeward.

Many of the residents of Kansas City boarded the return train at 3:30, though the majority were determined to "see it out," and the train leaving Independence at 9:50 p. m. found many weary picnickers waiting at the depot.

Matters, however, in the meantime were varied. A large number of the excursionists received and accepted a courteous invitation from Mr. Vaughn, of Narrow Gauge fame, and indulged in a delightful ride for a few miles up the road.

Others sought the city of Independence and time passed pleasantly in the watching of fireworks, etc., and for hours did the dull old town resound with Kansas City shouts. But when the time came to go home they were all there and the train left the depot bearing away many a full stomach and an aching head.

As far as heard from none regretted the visit and in the minds of the many thousands who attended, the Jolly Old Settlers will ever remain fresh, while "The Fourth, of 1874, at Independence," will never be forgotten by the picnicking people of Jackson County.

The following recollections were penned by Mr. J. C. McCoy on the death of Daniel Boone, one of the pioneers of this region of country:

"From a brief notice we receive intelligence of the death of Daniel Boone, one of the earliest pioneers of Jackson County, Missouri, and of the State of Kansas, which occurred at his old homestead, eight miles south of Kansas City, February 22, 1880. Deceased was a grandson of the famous Kentucky and Missouri pioneer, and son of Daniel Morgan Boone, who was, without doubt, the first actual resident householder within the limits of the State of Kansas, and who died at the same old homestead about the year 1834.

"For almost half a hundred years I had been on terms of intimate friendship with him and honored the sterling worth and guileless life of my worthy old friend and fellow pioneer. I may not call the news of his death sad. His earthly pilgrimage had extended beyond the ordinary limit of three score years and ten. His active work on earth was finished and believing, as I do, in the wisdom of the conclusion of the King, that a 'good name is better than precious ointment and the day of death better than the day on one's birth,' why then should we contemplate the departure of such an one to his long home, with sadness and regret? The same wise King hath said: 'Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was and the spirit shall return to God who gave it.'

"Deceased was born in St. Charles County, Mo., Aug. 27, 1809, and in 1826, his father, Daniel Morgan Boone, lived in the lower part of Kansas City, near the mouth of the small creek below the gas works, that point being the agency for the Kanzan Indians; and at that point resided Benito Vasques, who was United States agent, and Daniel Morgan Boone, the



father of the subject of this notice with his family—the latter having the appointment of government farmer for the Kansas tribe.

“Early in 1827, they removed, and established the agency at a point about eight miles above Lawrence, on the north bank of the Kansas River. It was here that I first met my friend, who is now deceased. Daniel Boone was then about twenty, while I was nineteen. From that day till the day of his recent death, through the long lapse of half a century, during which the wild wilderness of our youth had become transformed into smiling fields and busy marts of commerce and all the appliances of human industry and progress, we were friends in the true meaning of the term. I can use none other more expressive of our relations during that long period.

“In 1833, his father removed with his family to the state of his old homestead, where his son died where he lived in 1834.

“In 1832 our old friend was married to Mary Philbert, who is still living in the enjoyment of health and vigor, mental and physical, at that pleasant, unostentatious, hospitable homestead. She, too, has a personal history full of interest connected with the early settlement of these western wilds. The panorama unrolled to our vision and the experiences of half a hundred years would form the subject and theme of an epic worthy of the grand old Homer. Eulogies are delivered in set speeches, by chosen and gifted orators, on the demise of great men of the earth and those holding high official trusts and the inanimate clay is consigned to earth, the rappings and blaze of funeral pomp. All proper and right, if the eulogies pronounced tell the truth, and the whole truth, and if the sable badges of mourning represent the true sorrow of the multitude.

“Not so, however, was it with our deceased old friend, Daniel Boone. His humble eulogy was more appropriate, more eloquent and more touching, pronounced by tearful eyes and loving hands, and the heartfelt sympathies of lifelong friends who surrounded his bedside and cheered him as his feet met the waters of the dark river. It would be a pleasant and grateful task to write an obituary of such an one; but none is needed. It is already graven on the hearts of his friends, ‘Let me die the death of the righteous and let my last end be like his.’ ”

The old settlers met at Kansas City, in the county court room, including men who have lived in and around Jackson County from twenty-five to fifty years, who date their arrival with the earliest pioneers who settled in this section of Missouri. At the morning session a committee was appointed to prepare the programme for the evening. William O. Shouse

was selected as chairman and C. D. Lucas, secretary. In the afternoon the old settlers again assembled and the committee made a report which was adopted and the proceedings had in regular order as suggested in the report. The first question under consideration, the advisability of forming themselves into an association was discussed by R. N. Hudspeth, J. C. McCoy, F. R. Long, William Jarboe and others.

They then adopted the name of "Historical Society of Old Settlers." The society was understood to include all the old residents of Jackson, Clay, Cass and Platt Counties, Mo., and Wyandotte and Johnson Counties, Kan. Jacob Gregg was elected president. He is now one of the oldest residents in Jackson County, was sheriff in an early day and has served in the State Legislature. D. C. Allen, of Clay County, was elected first vice-president, Chas. D. Lucas, second vice-president, J. C. McCoy, secretary, and Joseph S. Chick, treasurer. An executive committee was appointed with powers to appoint various sub-committees to arrange for the meeting on the 22d day of May at the fair grounds in Kansas City. The committee consisted of Wallace Laws, Col. Theo. S. Case, Col. A. B. H. McGee, Col. R. T. Van Horn and Judge F. R. Long. By request Judge Adams, secretary of the Historical Society of Kansas, addressed the meeting, giving valuable suggestions as to the mode of operation for the gathering of historical facts. Judge Adams was then invited to be present at the reunion, May 22d.

A resolution was adopted appointing John C. McCoy, Col. Case, L. B. Dougherty, D. C. Allen and E. A. Hickman a permanent committee on history, with a view of collecting historical facts connected with the early settlement of this portion of the West.

The following is a list of the names of those present and the date at which they settled in this locality, some of them running back fifty years or more:

Allen McGee -----	1827	W. J. Wright -----	1837
C. B. L. Boothe -----	1829	Amazon Hayes -----	1837
William Mulkey -----	1829	Myers Hale -----	1837
Samuel Gregg -----	1831	John J. Moore -----	1837
James M. Adams -----	1833	J. F. Thomas -----	1838
William J. Jarboe -----	1834	N. B. Wallace -----	1839
Larkin Steele -----	1836	Joseph C. Ranson -----	1842
Josiah Davenport -----	1836	George W. Shepherd -----	1844
Wallace Laws -----	1846	John C. Wallace -----	1837

John C. Agnew -----	1847	Samuel Bales -----	1837
J. M. Ross -----	1850	W. O. Shouse -----	1837
R. T. Van Horn -----	1855	G. B. Regan -----	1837
A. M. Allen -----	1855	Joel Lipscomb -----	1839
F. R. Long -----	1828	Wallace Smith -----	1840
R. A. Hudspeth -----	1829	William Radcliff -----	1843
J. C. McCoy -----	1830	W. S. T. Patton -----	1846
Walter Bales -----	1831	William R. Bernard -----	1847
C. D. Lucas -----	1834	A. B. Earle -----	1848
Alexander Collins -----	1835	Isaac McCarty -----	1852
William Stewart -----	1836	D. Y. Chalfant -----	1855
Bryan Wright -----	1836		

By request J. C. McCoy then read an address to the society. The following was delivered before the pioneers of Jackson County, April 24, 1880: "This reunion of Old Settlers is to me as it is no doubt to all present an occasion of great and profound interest. Aside from the opportunity it affords us for an interchange of friendly greetings and the renewal of old friendships and the expression of words of mutual sympathy and cheer as we draw near the end of life's journey, it may not be inaptly regarded as a pleasant way-station, a halting place, where we may take our bearings and view the surroundings, a high point from whence we may note and fix upon land-marks that shall safely guide us to our haven of rest. Only a few years more will come and go, before such a meeting as this will cease to be held altogether, and when the small remnant of the pioneer band who first entered this goodly land shall have passed over to another and we may hope a better one. In this regard, then, this meeting of Old Settlers has no ordinary significance. It means, not only a reunion of old familiar friends, but a sort of leave taking, an adieus to the scenes and the recollections of our early boyhood, our mature manhood and our autumn days whose chilling blasts have so plentifully sprinkled our heads with withering frosts.

"Half a hundred years have elapsed since many who are now here first entered this beautiful, bountiful land, known then as the farthest "Far West." The broad boundless area lying westward and a very large proportion of that lying eastward and northward, was then a wide, waste wilderness, clothed in the garb of nature's own handiwork, unknown and almost untrod by civilized man undisturbed and unmarred by the ax or plowshare, the pick and shovel. But all this is now changed. Instead of the lonely wolf howl and the scream of the panther, the hills and valleys



now resound with the shrill warning of the steam whistle, the rumbling and rattle of the locomotive with its long, swift flying train, and the ceaseless hum of the busy multitude over the vast wild region from the Mississippi to the Pacific, and from the Northern Lakes to the Gulf. Civilization and enlightened human progress, like a broad wave has swept across plain and mountain, hill and valley, in its onward, resistless, westward flow, obliterating our ancient land marks, uprooting our grand old forests, spanning our rivers with iron bridges, building throughout its entire length and breadth a network of railroads, cities, towns and villages. Churches and school houses have sprung up until we find ourselves today no longer in the Far West, but in the great mid-continental center of commerce and trade. Nearly all these marvelous results have been accomplished within the last twenty years.

“Our old slow going modes of locomotion and travel, of cultivation of soil, of harvesting and handling its products, in the diffusion of knowledge, in the mechanic arts, in the contrivances and labor saving inventions to help carry on the various industries and the necessary household duties, and in all the departments of trade, commerce and manufacturing, everything has been changed. The world now moves by machinery and steam and electricity—and its inhabitants now live, move, work, think, preach and pray by machinery—for one can now hold familiar converse with friends many miles distant, or listen to a sermon delivered in a distant city while comfortably seated at his own fireside. What think you would have been the emotions of good old Joab Powell, who emigrated from the Sni country to Oregon in 1843, and who was credited with selecting his text on one occasion from the “two-eyed chapter of the one-eyed John,” or of old uncle Jimmy Savage had they been assured that this mode of preaching the gospel could, and would be practiced during his lifetime. Little doubt we have but that in the extremity of their disgust and in behalf of outraged common sense they would have exclaimed: “Now, Gabriel, blow your horn, and take us out of this pestilent atmosphere, to where we can get a good breath of God’s own fresh, wholesome air.” We need only to open our eyes and look around us to realize something of the triumphs of ambitious man over nature’s obstacles. The rough unsightly hills and deep gorges of primitive times, once scattered all around where we now meet have melted away, and in a great measure been leveled down before the pick and shovel of the stalwart omnipresent Irishman.

“The floor of the county court room where we meet is forty feet below



BAPTIST CHURCH, OAK GROVE, MO.



CHRISTIAN CHURCH, OAK GROVE, MO.





the original surface of the surrounding ground; and if the earth were again restored to its original level, nothing of the proportions of the large and costly court house would be visible except its dome. All around us is the great and growing city. When we came fifty years ago the nearest newspaper office was 130 miles east of this (the *Boonelick Monitor*, published at Fayette, Howard County, by James H. Birch).

"I need not tell you or attempt to enumerate the number of those luminaries now shedding abroad their bright rays around us and away off toward the setting sun. Their name is legion and the State of Kansas alone, that old American desert, now rejoice in the light of nearly three hundred periodicals and publications. Leaving out of the estimate the military cantonment, Leavenworth, the entire white population of the State of Kansas fifty years ago numbered less than sixty souls. It now numbers nearly 1,000,000, and the old mythical desert has become the banner wheat producing state in the Union. The wild denizens and countless herds that once roamed over those plains from time immemorial, have all taken their flight before the shrill scream of the locomotive and the steam thresher. The long straggling line of the yearly outgoing and incoming caravans of white-topped prairie schooners with its herds and boisterous, jovial happy crowds of American and Mexican greasers, no longer winds its slow length across those plains. I doubt whether there was then a stationary steam engine west of St. Charles. We were then destitute of a thousand things, that people nowadays consider indispensable, and yet I can't see but people were just as happy and contented then as now. I think the average man was gifted with an allowance of brains fully equal to the man of the present day, and I am very sure they were better and came nearer the Divine standard; were more honest, more given to practice of hospitality and the virtues that ennoble and adorn mankind. It is true that knowledge has greatly increased, but we may have grave doubts whether the true wisdom that looks beyond to the higher sphere of excellence has had any increase.

"Will some tell us this is the bliss of ignorance? One can now make the journey around the earth with more safety and more expeditiously than he could then travel from the mouth of Kaw River to the Pacific. It required two years of great privation, danger and fatigue for Lewis and Clark in 1804-5 to make the journey from St. Louis to the Columbia and back with all the needful aid of the government in men and money. The world is now moved by steam, machinery, electricity and the thousand subtle and incomprehensible agencies provided by an all-seeing, wise and

beneficent Creator for the well-being of his creatures. Where is the limit, the height and depth, the boundless scope that has not been reached or attempted by the daring ambition and irrepressible intellect and genius of the human race? Truly, it would seem that in this evening of the nineteenth century of the Christian era the time had arrived predicted in the last chapter of the book Daniel, 'when many shall run to and fro in the earth and knowledge be increased.' And yet, there are a few transcendently wise men and scientists, who tell us this world and the human race has existed many millions of years, and will continue to exist many more. I won't dispute it. I am only too thankful that they allow us to have a beginning and ending at all. But more than that, they tell us that all the stupendous results just spoken of have been accomplished by being descended from baboons. Ah! what a fall is this, my countrymen, from the sublime to the ridiculous.

'They tell us \* \* \* \* \* We must  
 Give up our origin Divine;  
 We came by methods we define—  
 Development—from toads and swine.  
 The man is but a brute complete,  
 The maiden, laughing, loving, sweet,  
 Should with a cousin's welcome, greet  
     Each kindred thing  
     With beak and wing,  
 And ne'er with pride of former shape,  
 Forget she's but a lovely ape,  
 Bound down to earth beyond escape.  
 Must we accept this pedigree?  
 This stunted, scrubby family tree!  
 This beauty, genealogy!'

"Never, is my unfaltering and emphatic answer in behalf of the Old Settlers, although I am sorry to confess that I have in my long experience, known a few men who did have very strongly marked characteristics of the hog. But, enough of this. When an old backwoodsman, who couldn't tell the difference between a thoroughbred Pegasus and a spavined cart-horse, takes to quoting poetry, its time to put on the brakes. I said that it was a great pleasure to me to recall the faces, the incidents and pleasant memories of by-gone years, to draw comparisons between the past and present. In doing this, the question naturally arises, whether with all



the wonderful discoveries and inventions, wrought out and set in motion by scientific knowledge and the genius of man, the sum of human happiness has been increased.

“Whether the average man comes nearer the divine standard today than he did fifty years ago? With the increase of knowledge and wealth has there been a corresponding increase in the virtues that alone make man god-like? These are questions profoundly impressive and full of interest to the old timer—and which we fear are fully answered “not so.” We have listened to speeches and discourses as grandly eloquent and logical, in the unpretentious court house and the humble meeting house of the backwoods, as we ever heard in the halls of legislation or under the tall church spire. There is a very large amount of knowledge, so called, of the present day, that it would be a great blessing to the human race were it unlearned and obliterated altogether. It would greatly thin out our over crowded penitentiaries, jails and alms houses. No my friends, we need have no fears to institute a comparison from a moral or a social stand point between the people with whom we mingled in the days of our youth, and those who now occupy their places. As for me it is a source of unalloyed pleasure and profound interest to recall the faces and scenes of my boyhood, my youth and early manhood, of the boy, the careless, joyous, happy boy, plodding along to the small log school house, embowered in the shade of the grand old forest near the cool sparkling spring, to listen again to the sonorous cow bell, to reconstruct the almost forgotten picture of the unpretentious but comfortable log house with its surroundings of out houses and fields of waving grain, to listen again to the hum of the spinning wheel and cast shy, furtive glances toward the red-cheeked maiden who so daintily trips back and forth as she deftly whirrs around the big wheel and gathers her woof on the spindle. Talk of your modern dancing schools! was there ever a school teaching the poetry of motion and posture like unto or equal to this. Then the ceaseless clatter of the everlasting loom, without which no considerable housewife could consent to live a day; and the old familiar treadmill or pull-round horse mill, and the gossipy miller and the old log meeting house where we all went on Sundays to show our Sunday clothes and take no notice of the girls dressed out in their brilliant gingham, calicoes and linseys. Ah! well! no need to proceed further with this topic. Every one of you old veterans know how it is yourself. It is very true that “distance lends enchantment to the view”—and perhaps the distance of time (not place) leads us to view with undue partiality and favor the per-



sons and faces familiar to us in our early life; but we have reason to rejoice and thank God that we can do so conscientiously. We do not say that all men in our early days were good men and true, but we do say that the proportion of the bad to the good was much smaller than now; that the vast increase of population, wealth and knowledge has also brought with these elements of civil progress a vastly disproportioned increase of crime in a thousand new and varied forms then unknown, permeating our whole land and yielding a rich and perennial harvest of rogues and criminals of high and low degree. We need then have no fear to institute a comparison between the social, moral, physical or mental standing of the men of our early days and those who swarm around us. "Nearer my God to thee." And now my old friends do we fully realize the vast changes that have been wrought all around us, for better or worse? All, all is changed, and we old pioneers, too, are changed. Our once vigorous, buoyant, elastic step is changed to the slow, cautious plodding of the weary as we pick our way along the down grade of life. Our dark locks are changed to iron-gray and white. Our early dreams, our aspirations and our hopes are changed, a few to full fruition many to ashes of disappointment and sorrow, and the bright air castles of our youth are vanished to the baseless fabric of a vision. Our home circles and our familiar friends who have passed on before us are changed, we fully hope, in their new sphere of existence, "where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary be at rest." That we, too, who still linger on the way may with our loins girded, and our lamps burning, in God's own good time have with them one other happy, unending reunion, is the fervent wish of one of the Old Settlers."

The meeting of Old Settlers, May 22, 1880, was a gala day for the Old Settlers of Jackson County. Their meeting was at the fair grounds in Kansas City. The plain, old, substantial farmer, arrayed in the primitive homespun was there with his bright, happy and healthful family. The old and the young mingled together in a gay and joyous holiday. Here and there beneath the great forest trees, were noted groups of Old Settlers, who recounted to each other the scenes of bygone days. The gray-haired pioneer recounted his battle with life, and the listeners drank deep of the historic lore of half a century ago.

The silver locks of the lordly old man blended in the scene with the auburn curls of youth and beauty. Friends who had not seen each other for years shook hands in a warm and friendly grasp, and the deep, cheery tones, "How are you?" and "God bless you my old and true friend," rend-

ered the picture a pleasing and happy one. Relatives met after a lapse of many years and greeted each other with warm demonstrations of joy. The day itself was beautiful and of the right temperature for a picnic. The forenoon was spent entirely in hunting up old friends and relatives and in pleasant converse. At twelve o'clock preparations were commenced for the picnic dinner. Baskets loaded to the fullest capacity, were brought from the wagons and buggies. The tablecloths were spread on the grass and work of unburdening the baskets began. All over the southern portion of the grounds, groups of five to twenty, were soon engaged in the pleasant pastime of devouring the good things prepared by the thrifty house wife. There were no formalities about the meal; everybody, stranger or friend, was invited to join and dine with one of the many groups—there was enough and to spare. The generous hospitality tendered by the honest yeomanry of Missouri, permitted no one to go away hungry. Chicken, ham, mutton chops, pies, cakes, pickles, jellies, ice-cream and all other edibles found in the house of the old settler, were on the bill of fare.

The preparations by the executive committee had been ample and complete, except the arrangement made for speakers. Generals Doniphan and Atkinson did not arrive and there were no orators of the day. The other arrangements, including chairs and seats provided in the grand stand, were most ample and satisfactory. Here was stationed the splendid band that discoursed excellent music all day long.

OLD SETTLERS' POEM.

(By Martin Rice.)

'Tis almost half a hundred years,  
Since you and I, old pioneer,  
    With aspirations free  
A home within this region sought;  
But who of us then dreamed or thought  
To see the many changes wrought,  
    That we have lived to see?

From different counties then we came;  
Our object and our aim the same—  
    A home in this far West.  
A cabin here and there was found,

Perhaps a little spot of ground  
Inclosed and cleared, while all around  
In nature's garb was dressed.

Here then we saw the groves of green  
Where woodman's ax had never been—  
The spreading prairies too.  
Within these groves so dense and dark  
Was heard the squirrel's saucy bark;  
The bounding stag was but the mark  
To prove the rifle true.

But all is changed and cabin's gone;  
The clapboard roof with weight poles on,  
The rough hewn puncheon floor:  
The chimney's made of stick and clay  
Are seen no more; gone to decay;  
The men that built them, where are they?  
I need not ask you more.

They're gone, but they're remembered yet,  
Those cabin homes we can't forget  
Although we're growing old:  
Fond memory still the spot reveres,  
The cabin homes of youthful years  
Where with compatriot pioneers  
We pleasure had untold.

The dense and tangled woodland too,  
The groves we often wandered through  
No longer now are there;  
The prairie with its sward of green  
With flowers wild no more are seen,  
But farms with dusty lanes between  
Are seen where once they were.

Large towns and villages arise  
And steeples point toward the skies,  
Where all was desert then;



And nature's scenes have given place  
To those of art; the hunter's chase  
Has yielded to the exciting race  
Of speculating men.

The very spot on which we stand—  
This city, so superb and grand—  
How did we see it then?  
How wild was that forbidden scene,  
The hills, with gorges thrown between,  
As if by nature it had been  
Made for a panther's den.

Those hills have since been leveled down,  
The gorges filled, the streets of town  
In all directions range;  
The labors of ten thousand hands,  
The workingman from thousand lands,  
The energy that wealth commands,  
Have made the wondrous change.

Ah, what a change the pioneer  
In forty years has witnessed here;  
(And things are changing still;)  
And streets and alleys then were not;  
Its greatest thoroughfare was—what?  
A ground-hog walk or a possum trot  
Which led from hill to hill.

Ah, yes, my friends, old pioneers,  
Full many a change within those years  
The country's undergone;  
How many changes it's passed through—  
And we old friends are changing to—  
There's been a change in me and you  
And still that change goes on.

And when we think upon the past,  
Those friends whose lots with us were cast  
On this one wild frontier,

And pass them all in our review,  
As oftentimes in thought we do—  
Alas! how very few  
Are there remaining here.

A few more years will come and go,  
As other years have done, you know;  
And then—ah, yes, what then?  
The world will still be moving on;  
But we, whose cheeks are growing wan,  
Will not be here: we'll all be gone  
From out the ranks of man.

Our places will be vacant here,  
And of the last old pioneer  
The land will be bereft.  
The places which we here have filled,  
The fields which we have cleared and tilled,  
Our barns, though empty or though filled,  
To others will be left.

But ere we pass to that far bourn,  
From whence no traveler can return,  
We meet old pioneers.  
The few of us who yet remain,  
And we who here have met, would fain  
Now clasp those friendly hands again,  
We clasped in by-gone years.

In glad reunion now we meet,  
Each other once again to greet,  
And conversation hold;  
And while we socially today  
A few brief hours may while away,  
Let us, although our heads are gray,  
Forget that we are old.

Let us go back—in memory, go  
Back to the scenes of long ago,  
When we were blithe and young;

When hope and expectation bright  
Were buoyant, and our hearts were light;  
And fancy that delusive sprite  
Her siren sonnets sung.

And as we join in friendly chat,  
We'll speak of this and talk of that,  
And of the many things  
That have occurred within the land,  
Since first the little squatter band  
Came to this country, now so grand,  
Before 'twas ruled by rings.

'Tis natural that we should think,  
While standing on the river's brink,  
How wide the stream has grown.  
We saw it when 'twas but a rill,  
Just bursting from the sunny hill;  
And now its surging waters fill  
A channel broad, unknown.

'Tis natural and proper, too,  
That we compare the old and new—  
The present and past,—  
And speak of those old foggy ways  
In which we passed our younger days,  
Then of the many new displays  
That crowd upon us fast.

We little knew of railroads then,  
Nor dreamed of that near period when  
We'd drive the iron horse;  
And 'twould have made the gravest laugh,  
Had he been told but one-half  
The wonders of the telegraph—  
Then in the brain of Morse.

We did not have machinery then,  
To sow and reap and thresh the grain,  
But all was done by hand;



And those old-fashioned implements  
Have long ago been banished hence,  
Or rusting, lie beside the fence—  
No longer in demand.

Yes, there are grown up men I know,  
Who never saw a bull-tongue plow,  
A flail or reaping hook;  
And who could not describe, you know,  
A swingling board or knife, although  
Their grandmas used them long ago,  
And lessons on them took.

The young man now would be amused  
To see some things his grandsire used,  
Some things he ne'er has seen.  
The way in which we clean our wheat,  
When two strong men with blanket sheet  
Would winnow out the chaff and cheat,  
And twice or thrice the thing repeat,  
Until the grain will clean.

The single shovel plow and hoe,  
To clean out weeds was all the show—  
We knew no better ways;  
And now our sons would laugh to scorn  
Such poky ways of making corn,  
And bless their stars that they were born  
In more enlightened days.

They say the world is wiser grown,  
They've got the speaking telephone—  
Talks twenty miles or more.  
And preachers now may preach and pray  
To congregations miles away;  
And thousand other things they say  
We never had before.

And yet I do not know but what  
The pioneer enjoyed his lot,  
    And lived as much at ease,  
As men in those enlightened days  
With all their strange, new-fangled ways,  
Which wealth and fashion now displays,  
    The mind of man to please.

'Tis true we did not live so fast,  
But socially our time was passed,  
    Although our homes were mean.  
Our neighbors then were neighbors true,  
And every man his neighbor knew,  
Although those neighbors might be few  
    And sometimes far between.

Ah, yes, old pioneers, I trow,  
The world was brighter then than now  
    To us gray-headed ones.  
Hope pointed us beyond the vale,  
And whispered us a fairy tale  
Of coming pleasures, ne'er to fail  
    Through all the shining suns.

Ambition, too, with smile so soft,  
Was pointing us to seats aloft,  
    Where fame and honor last.  
We had not learned what now we know,  
The higher up the mount we go,  
The storms of life still fiercer blow,  
    And colder is the blast.

That though we reach the mountain top;  
Fruition find of every hope,  
    Or wear the victor's crown;  
Though far above the clouds we tread,  
There's other clouds still overhead,  
And on the mind there is the dread,  
    The dread of coming down.

Ah, yes, Old Settlers, one and all,  
Whatever may us yet befall,  
    We will not, can't forget,  
The simple, old fashioned plan,  
The routes in which our father's ran  
Before the age of steam began  
    To run the world in debt.

And while we talk upon the past,  
Of friends who are dropping off so fast,  
    And those already gone,  
It may not be, my friends, amiss  
For each of us to this—  
The curtain of forgetfulness  
    Will soon be o'er us drawn.

And though in glad reunion we  
Have met today, perhaps 'twill be  
    A day of taking leave.  
And we who oft have met before,  
And parted in the days of yore,  
We'll part, perhaps, to meet no more  
    When we shall part this eve.

The mind goes back through all the years—  
We call to mind the pioneers,  
    Those bold and hardy men;  
We pass them in the mind's review,  
The many dead, the living few,  
Those unpretending settlers who  
    Were our compatriots then.

Men who of toil were not afraid,  
Men who the early history made  
    Of this now famous land;  
The men who ere the Mormons came  
This heritage so fair to claim,  
Were here prepared through flood and flame,  
    Those claimants to withstand.



Sam, Lucas, Boggs and Swearingen,  
The Nolands and the Fristoes, then  
    The Greggs, with Owens, two;  
The Davises and the Flournoys,  
The Kings and Staytons and McCoys,  
And Dailey with his twenty boys—  
    All these and more we know.

The Wilsons and the Adamses,  
The Irvings and the Lewises.  
    The Webbs and the Fitzhughs,  
The Powells and the Harrises,  
The Walkers and the Barrises,  
The Bakers and the Savages,  
    The Hickmans, Woods and Pughs.

Yes, some of these were noted men,  
Well known, and much respected then,  
    Although their coats were plain;  
And when in office they were placed,  
They proved themselves not double-faced—  
The people's trust was not misplaced.  
    We need such men again.

We had our courts of justice then,  
A terror to dishonest men  
    Who feared the halter's drop.  
Judge Rayland then the courts could hold  
In full a dozen counties told,  
Decide the cases manifold,  
    And keep with business up.

We had our lawyers too, but they,  
Or nearly all, have passed away,  
We expected one of them to-day—  
    A brave and goodly man;  
But we are disappointed sore,  
That man of fame and legal lore,  
Now we may never see here more—  
    Brave Colonel Doniphan.

But where are all his old compeers?  
The lawyers 'mongst the pioneers,  
    Old French and Hicks and Young?  
Where now are both the Reeces gone,  
And where is Hovey, noisy one,  
And where is David Atchison,  
    That man of fiery tongue?

They're gone, you say, 'tis ever thus,  
The men of note are leaving us,  
    The men of greatest heft;  
But when we pause and look around,  
A few whose heads are 'bove the ground,  
A few, perhaps, may still be found;  
    Sawyer and Woodson left.

And then we had our preachers too,  
And one of them I think you knew,  
    And knew their christian worth;  
And who of you that ever heard  
Good Joab Powell preach the word,  
But had his better feelings stirred  
    By plain and simple talk.

McKinney, Ferrell, Nelson too,  
Slayton, Warder and Fritzhugh,  
    Tilley, Rice and Hill,  
And there was Elder Kavanaugh,  
And those of yore who ever saw  
Old Jimmy Savage, sure to draw  
    A picture of him still.

Ah, yes, the preachers of those days  
Were noted for their simple ways,  
    And some for style uncouth.  
But they are gone, they all are dead,  
Another class are in their stead,  
Much better paid and better read,  
    But have they more of truth?

But time would fail to speak of all  
Those changes that our minds recall;  
    The world is shifting strange,  
And soon its shifting scenes will bear  
The last old pioneer to where  
His lost and loved companions are,  
    Low in the silent grave.

But ere, my friends, we hence embark,  
We fain would place some lasting mark,  
    Upon this mountain shore  
A mark the traveler may see  
In coming years and know that we  
Have lived and passed the road that he  
    May then be passing o'er.

When death's dark curtain shall be drawn  
And we old pioneers are gone,  
    Let truthful history tell  
To far posterity the tale,  
As down the stream of time they sail,  
How we with motto "never fail"  
    Came here and what befell.

Let history then impartial state  
The incidents of every date,  
    And that it so may do,  
Let pioneers of every age,  
In this important work engage,  
And each of them produce his page,  
    His page of history true.

The incidents of early years,  
Known only to the pioneers,  
    With them will soon be lost,  
Unless before they hither go,  
Those incidents are stated so  
Posterity the facts may know,  
    When they the stream have crossed.



The last speaker of the day was Rev. Father Donnelly who related some interesting personal reminiscences of his early pioneer life in this county. Father Donnelly has been a Catholic priest in this county for many years.

#### OLD PERSONS PRESENT.

John Christerson, of Jackson County, can lay claim for being the oldest pioneer within its limits. He was born here in 1819 and has lived in the county ever since his birth, making a total residence of *sixty-one years*.

David Tyburn, of Clay county, comes next on the list. He is from Kentucky where he was an infant. The date of his arrival is also 1819, and he was reared in Clay County where he has lived about *sixty-one years*.

Margaret Christerson was the first white female child born in this county. This occurred in the year 1824 in what is now Sniabar township. She is still a resident of the same township.

Adam Christerson has lived in Jackson County since 1825. He was born in 1794 and was the oldest man on the grounds. Alexander Majors, of Platte County, has resided there ever since 1825, and is sixty-six years old.

James Hunter has resided in Jackson County since 1829.

Edward Turner has lived in Clay County for the last fifty years.

#### REGISTERED LIST.

The following is a complete list of names registered, with date of coming to the county:

Walter Balis, Jackson County	1831	J. M. Belcher, Jackson	1832
James K. Sheley, Jackson	1852	E. A. Hickman, Jackson	1840
Martin Rice, Jackson	1833	John Gunter, Jackson	1842
M. Hale, Platte	1837	Wm. McCraw, Jackson	1836
John Trenter, Jackson	1836	J. S. Davenport, Jackson	1833
Alsom Renick, Jackson	1843	J. A. Steele, Jackson	1844
J. Farmer, Cass	1837	James Wilson, Jackson	1825
Greenup Bird, Clay	1831	B. F. Duck, Jackson	1852
Henry Adams, Platte	1838	C. Powell, Jackson	1831
Mrs. S. Chick, Saline	1822	A. B. H. McGee, Jackson	1828
F. R. Lorey, Clay	1823	Caleb Winfray, Jackson	1842

E. Marion, Jackson-----	1833	Alexander Majors, Jackson---	1825
J. B. Forbs, Jackson-----	1868	Jesse Davis, Jackson-----	1828
E. Allen, Jackson-----	1826	Alexander Harris, Jackson---	1829
J. H. J. Harris, Jackson-----	1832	B. B. Cane, Cass-----	1834
James Genders, Jackson-----	1837	L. B. Leef, Jackson-----	1836
Richard Keely, Jackson-----	1836	Philip Weinger, Jackson-----	1838
Edward West, Jackson-----	1834	R. L. Shanks, Jackson-----	1846
W. E. Boyne, Jackson-----	1843	J. P. Withers, Jackson-----	1828
W. H. Radcliff, Jackson-----	1843	Edward Tanner, Ray-----	1839
Agnes Flournoy, Jackson-----	1826	N. W. Ashlog, Jackson-----	1829
Rebecca Potet, Jackson-----	1836	B. F. Millis, Jackson-----	1849
David Tyburn, Clay-----	1819	John Long, Jackson-----	1828
J. B. Wornall, Jackson-----	1844	J. P. Henry, Jackson-----	1849
E. R. Hickinan, Jackson-----	1841	N. Vinquest, Jackson -----	1836
J. M. Teegardin, Ray-----	1839	J. O. Matthews, Jackson-----	1848
— Jackson, Jackson-----	1835	W. M. Cogswell, Jackson-----	1844
Thos. J. Ford, Jackson-----	1850	Benj. Ricketts, Clay -----	1831
Geo. Sellman, Jackson-----	1857	J. H. Robertson, Jackson-----	1855
A. V. Freeman, Jackson-----	1846	C. B. L. Boothe, Jackson-----	1829
Wallace Smith, Jackson-----	1840	Clifton Twyman, Jackson-----	1844
C. G. Hopkins, Jackson-----	1840	W. H. Winship, Jackson-----	1854
S. W. Hopkins, Jackson-----	1858	W. C. Staples, Jackson-----	1830
C. Whitehead, Jackson-----	1856	E. Von Schwonefeldt, Jackson	1849
I. Hopkins, Jackson-----	1842	J. D. Noland, Jackson-----	1839
R. Harris, Sr., Jackson-----	1827	O. P. W. Bailey, Jackson-----	1852
G. R. McCorkle, Clay-----	1848	H. C. Brooking, Jackson-----	1838
J. J. Willoughby, Jackson-----	1829	James M. Reed, Jackson-----	1835
G. Lemon, Clarke -----	1850	Thomas Winship, Jackson-----	1854
Sol. Young, Jackson -----	1841	W. E. Croysdale, Jackson-----	1830
Margaret Christerson, born in Jackson County -----	1824	W. H. Hill, Jackson-----	1836
John Christerson, born in Jack- son County -----	1819	John Frazier, Jackson-----	1852
James Hunter, Jackson-----	1829	A. B. Earle, Jackson -----	1848
J. R. Fry, Jackson -----	1858	John C. Agnew, Jackson-----	1848
W. D. Steele, Jackson-----	1851	Archibald Clark, Jackson-----	1826
Adam Christerson, Jackson---	1825	Daniel Dofflemyer, Jackson---	1848
C. Phillibert, Jackson-----	1836	John P. Knoche, Jackson-----	1841
John M. Hale, Jackson-----	1825	J. S. Chick, Jackson-----	1836
		S. H. Woodson, Jackson-----	1829
		Robt. Barnhart, Jackson-----	1841

Charles Keller, Jackson-----	1841	Margaret Northrop, Jackson--	1842
W. M. Johnson, Jackson-----	1845	S. W. Speas, Jackson-----	1852
T. M. James, Jackson-----	1854	J. M. Adams, Jackson-----	1833
J. R. Morrison, Jackson-----	1865	Richard Steele, Jackson-----	1832
S. J. Platt, Jackson-----	1844	Jos. C. Ranson, Jackson-----	1842
Chas. D. Lucas, Jackson-----	1834	D. W. Banta, Jackson-----	1857
Wallace Laws, Jackson-----	1846	Chas. Long, Jackson-----	1847
J. R. Griffin, Jackson-----	1857	Geo, Long, Jackson-----	1848
J. C. McCoy, Jackson-----	1853	C. E. Miles, Jackson-----	1867
H. M. Northrop, Jackson-----	1844	C. J. White, Jackson-----	1865
Mary J. Clark, Jackson-----	1842	John H. Reid, Jackson-----	1854
William Mulkey, Jackson-----	1826	L. A. Allen, Jackson-----	1858
Catharine Mulkey, Jackson---	1839		



## CHAPTER XVIII

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### MISCELLANEOUS

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GOOD ROAD MOVEMENTS—COL. EUGENE IRWIN—RECOLLECTIONS OF JUDGE  
JAMES B. YAGER—RAILROAD PROMOTION.

In the summer of A. D. 1913 Elliott W. Major, then Governor of Missouri, conceived the idea of getting up a sentiment all over the State for making better roads.

Automobiles were fast coming into use, not only in the towns and cities, but into the country as well. Farmers, who at the first sight of the machine on the road, wanted to shoot the driver, were getting accustomed to the sight of them. His horses were also getting used to seeing them and learned that they would not hurt anyone. Just as soon as a man bought a car, he became a good roads booster, and wanted better roads on which to drive his car. The idea spread. Farmers were beginning to buy cars, and just as soon as he did, he commenced a crusade to make the roads better.

The Governor issued a proclamation designating August 20 and 21 of that year, "Good Roads Days," and called upon all the people of the State to donate those two days and turn out and do all the work possible. It was to be a free-will offering by everybody for the general good. Upon receipt of the proclamation the county immediately fell in with the idea and promised all assistance in their power to carry on the work. The first thing they did was to appoint R. W. McCurdy, president of the Home Deposit Trust Company, general superintendent, and put an automobile and driver at his disposal, and told him "to go to it." With Mr. McCurdy's usual energy he put his whole time and attention to the undertaking. The first thing that he did was to appoint an executive committee, consisting of J. Allen Prewitt, Albert M. Ott, Frank C. Wyatt, C. A. Davis, B. Zick,

Jr., D. C. Herrington, J. L. Cogswell and W. Z. Hickman. The committee was called together and elected D. C. Herrington treasurer, O. C. Sheley secretary, and W. Z. Hickman assistant secretary. The meeting was more to organize for work. Various plans were discussed as to how to proceed in order to get the best results. The plan adopted was to appoint the road overseer in each of the 36 districts as captains of their district. He in turn selected the lieutenants for each sub-division of his district. The lieutenant visited every man in his territory and selected his help to make the undertaking a success. The captains were directed to select the places for the work to be done and assigned as many men he thought best for that particular job.

Mr. McCurdy visited the chamber of commerce and an automobile club of Kansas City and asked their assistance. They responded nobly to the call and made donations of money to buy tools with, for the supply of tools under the control of the overseers were totally inadequate to do the work. Several large manufacturing establishments volunteered to loan tools for use on those days, and the preparations went on as fast as possible. The overseers made an estimate of what tools would be needed and sent them into the secretary. It did not take long to find out just what kind, and how many tools of each kind, would be needed. Mr. McCurdy appointed a committee, consisting of W. T. Newbank, of Independence, Ed. H. Tafft and Thomas King, of Kansas City, as a committee to assemble the tools and send them to their proper locations. Mr. McCurdy then began holding meetings all over the county in the school houses and at the small towns. Enthusiasm took hold of the people and the work began. He organized what he called the "Whirlwind Campaign."

Automobiles were secured and willing workers started war. About a half dozen loads of enthusiasts left Independence and went to Kansas City. There they were joined by about a dozen more, all loaded to capacity, together with a band employed by W. R. Nelson, of the "Star," and started south over the Wornall road.

The first stop was made at Martin City, where a good crowd was in attendance. A schedule of stops had been made and published in all of the papers, speeches were made by several persons to the crowd.

The next stops were Grand View, Hickmans Mills, Lees Summit, Greenwood, Lone Jack and Oak Grove, where they were entertained at a fine chicken dinner, prepared as only the ladies of Oak Grove can do. The dinner was prepared at the request of Mr. W. R. Nelson, of the Kansas City "Star," and entirely at his expense. After dinner the march resumed.

The next stops were Grain Valley, Livesay, Buckner Sibley and Atherton, where the line of march was broken and to occupants each took their own route homeward. Mr. McCurdy made eighteen speeches that day, urging everybody to "do your duty."

The next morning the work began, all business was suspended in the public offices, and the clerks went to the country and went to work. In the smaller towns the merchants closed their business houses and did likewise.

While the men were working the ladies were not idle. They prepared meals and at noon the working men found themselves confronted with a feast fit for a king. The second day was a repetition of the first, and when night came each and everybody felt that something had been accomplished that was never thought of before. The captain of each district had been notified to keep an accurate account of the work done in his two days, and when completed to send same to the secretary for compilation. When they had all been sent in and figured up, Mr. McCurdy made the following report:

Independence, Oct. 4, 1918.

To the People of Jackson County:

It gives me great pleasure to be able to give you the general result of the grand work done in this county on August 20 and 21, last, by the good people of this county. The following is the summary of the total amount of work done on the public roads of the county during those two days.

266 days work done with teams and graders.

144 days work done with teams and wheel scrapers.

1136 days work done with teams and slip scrapers.

216 days work done with teams and plows.

3017 days work done with single hands using picks shovels and etc.

47 days work done hauling supplies.

13 days work done with steam engine and grader.

1665 pounds of dynamite used.

82 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles of road graded.

78 $\frac{1}{4}$  miles of weeds cuts.

156 hills worked in.

2180 feet of culberts from 12 to 36 inches in diameter put in.

10 miles of road dragged.

12 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles hedges cut.

30 corners rounded.

21 bridges repaired.

23 culberts repaired.



I want to express my sincere thanks to one and all for their great assistance in the big undertaking and in a special manner to the members of the committee that assembled the tools for the work. It was a hard and tiresome job and they deserve the thanks of the whole people for their untiring loyalty. Upon examining the machine in which I rode, I find that I traveled 1,432 miles. While the work was arduous and partly demanded the neglect of my own business at times, I feel myself amply repaid when I consider the vast amount of good that has been done. I have learned that the good people of Jackson County can always be depended on to do their whole duty when called upon. To the members of the executive committee who so ably assisted me at all times I return my grateful thanks. Take it all in all, every one did their whole duty from the start to finish. I also wish to state that during all the time that I was driving over the country I was greatly assisted by Mr. W. Z. Hickman, assistant secretary. His thorough familiarity with all the roads of the county enabled us to reach all parts of the county by the shortest routes. We spent the two working days going into every road district.

Respectfully submitted,

R. W. McCURDY, Supt.

COL. EUGENE IRWIN.

Eugene Erwin was the son of Emma Clay Erwin, youngest daughter of Henry Clay, the statesman. Of his father I have no knowledge. Upon reaching his majority, young Erwin moved to Missouri and married Josephine Russell of Boonville. He afterwards moved to Independence and built a home on North Liberty street.

When the Civil War came he espoused the cause of the South and became active in organizing for the strife that he felt would sweep the country. He gave valuable aid to Col. Thomas H. Rosser in organizing a battalion of infantry for the Confederate army.

In April, 1865, Col. Rosser was assigned to command of Memphis, Tennessee, and Erwin, then a major, succeeded to the command of the battalion and was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel. The battalion participated in the operations around Corinth, Miss. and upon the evacuation of that place retired to Gunntown, where the summer was spent in outpost duty and drill.

Col. Erwin was fortunate enough to add three additional companies to his command which brought it up to a regiment and it became designated as the 6th Regiment of Missouri Infantry, C. S. A. It was at Iuka,

but did not take part in the battle. It was furiously engaged in the battle of Corinth, where it suffered a heavy loss. Capt. F. M. Kinney and Lieut. Caleb Parish, both of Jackson County, were killed. Col. Erwin was painfully wounded. At the battle of Port Gibson, at the opening of the Vicksburg campaign, Col. Erwin maneuvered his regiment with such daring, courage and skill that he was promoted to the rank of brigadier-general, but was never apprised of the fact, being killed before the word could come from Richmond. His death came in this wise:

General Grant failing to carry the Confederate defense at Vicksburg by assault, resorted to a system of mining and blowing up salient points. One of these was at Fort Hill, which projected four hundred feet to the front of the Confederate main line. Erwin was assigned to defend this point. All were expecting the explosion, for the work of the miners had ceased. It came on the afternoon of the 25th of June. As soon as the explosion had subsided Grant rushed 2,700 picked men into the breach. These were as promptly met by Col. Erwin and his regiment of less than 300 men. For an hour the battle raged along the rim of the crater that had been made by the explosion. As soon as he realized that his picked men could not get over the top, Grant recalled his men. Not comprehending what the sudden silence portended, Col. Erwin clambered to the crest of the rim and was immediately shot through the heart. He fell back dead into the arms of Nathan Lipscomb, one of his most faithful soldiers. Thus was lost one of the most promising young men of the army.

#### RECOLLECTION OF JUDGE JAMES B. YAGER.

Jackson County has been the home of a great many able strong men, both by selection and birth. Those of them that were in the vigor of manhood, were men of strong character and resolution. In those times it took strong men to break away from home ties back East and go to a new, untried, undeveloped wilderness, and hew out their own fortunes. Those that did, had the nerve to stand any and all hardships that they might encounter. I wish that I had the data and history of each and all of them so that I might, in my feeble way, leave to posterity the deeds and works that these men and women did in their early struggles and privations, while they were subduing the wild country to which they had come to build their homes for their children and their children's children.

Among that number was James B. Yager, a Kentuckian, born in Simpson County, July 19, 1809. As the name indicates he was of German



descent, but his ancestors had lived in Virginia. Like most of the boys of that day and time, he was put to work early and kept at it until he was a full grown man. He had few advantages to acquire an education, although a man of a great deal of natural ability. He married in Kentucky and brought his young wife to Jackson County in 1837, to make a home. They settled in Washington township, about four miles southwest of where the town of Grandview now stands. Although that township of land had never been surveyed or opened for settlement a number of people were coming in and occupying it. They were anticipating the time when it would be opened for settlement. On an old government map, now in the county surveyor's office in Independence, is the report of the United States Surveyor, made in 1843, as they ran the section line, they frequently ran through the farms of the settlers and noted it on the map. There are many entries on it, such as "Wilson's Farm," "Shelton Farm," "Abston's Farm" and so on. It happened that the section corners to four section was about in the middle of Mr. Yager's farm, and after the survey he had to adjust his lines to conform to those of the government.

In 1842, Mr. Yager was elected a member of the County Court, and served two years. In 1844, he resigned the office of County Judge, and was a candidate for the Legislature on what was known as the anti-Benton ticket, but was defeated. In 1850, he sold that farm and bought one at what is now Troost avenue and Seventy-seventh street, Kansas City. In the year 1854, he was again elected a member of the County Court, and served four years. At the election in 1858, he was elected to the Legislature, and served two years. In 1868, he was again elected a judge of the County Court, and served six years. He was elected again in 1874, and owing to a new law reorganizing county courts, the members elected at that time drew lots for the length of their terms. It fell to his lot to get the two-year term. At the election, held in 1876, he was re-elected for a term of six years.

In the years 1870 and 1871 a great boom for railroad building came over the State of Missouri. Under the existing laws at that time, county courts would issue bonds and use the proceeds in aiding the construction of any railroad they saw fit, without the vote of the people. New railroad companies sprang up all over the State, almost in a night, and began scheming and working to get counties along the proposed line to subscribe to their capital stock for just about enough to build the road. One of these schemes was called the Clinton and Kansas City Branch of the Tebo and Neosho Railroad. It was to start at Kansas City, and run



south to some point, the Lord knows where, nobody else did. A great majority of these schemes were nothing more or less than straight out steal, and were intended to fill the pockets of the promoters. Judge Yager objected to the County Court subscribing stock to the so-called Clinton and Kansas City Branch of the Tebo Noeoshio Railroad. They could not convince him that they had the financial ability to build and equip the road. The other two members of the County Court overruled him and made the subscription. It was not long until the officers of the company came into court and asked for the bonds, although scarcely a single term of the contract had been complied with. When the other members of the court would make an order in regard to turning over the bonds to them, Judge Yager would file a written protest and have it spread upon the record. As soon as his protest would go on records, the newspapers would get hold of it and publish it to the world. Whenever one of his protests went on record, it was like throwing a hammer into a thrashing machine, it upset the whole machine. Thus things went on, the bonds had been printed and signed, but never delivered until the election of 1872. At that time the whole county was stirred up over the transaction. The taxpayers sided with Judge Yager. Joshua Petty, the member of the court whose term was expiring, but owing to his stand on the bond question, he was afraid to go before the people for re-election, and declined to be a candidate. The people who were opposed to the issue of the bonds to the railroad company cast about for a candidate who would side with Judge Yager, knowing that with two or three judges opposed to the issue, they would not be turned over. Luther Mason, a farmer of Prairie township, was agreed upon for the proper man. He was a large land owner and a heavy taxpayer, and was an honorable man in all of his dealings. He was elected and took his seat Jan. 1, 1873. The people now felt easy and thought the fight had been won, but at last the hopes of man are often blasted when they least are expected.

The officers of the railroad company did not intend to give up their prey if it could possibly be avoided, so they put their heads together, and had a bill prepared quietly, increasing the number of County Court judges from three members to five members, and providing that the additional two members should be from Kaw and Westport townships. Then they slipped down to Jefferson City, where the Legislature was in session, and had the bill rushed through both houses and had the bill signed by the Governor before the rest of the county was aware of their intentions. An election was immediately called, in those two townships, and

resulted in the election of A. L. Harris, of Kaw township, and W. R. Bernard, of Westport township. Among the very first acts of the court after the new members took their seats was to turn over the bonds to the railroad company. The road was never built, as Judge Yager predicted, but Jackson County paid out over \$1,000,000 principal and interest of the peoples money before the last bond was paid. The County Court consisted of five members until the year 1877, when the Legislature repealed the law of 1873, and returned it to three members, where it has remained ever since. It was during that period before the increase of five members of the court, an incident occurred that showed what manner of man Judge Yager was, that I wish to relate. The railroad company, in order to create impression that they were really in earnest about building the road, had bought a section of land in Cass County, where the town of Belton now stands. And had the town laid out and platted, and were offering lots for sale. After they had tried every means they knew of to overcome the opposition of Judge Yager to their plans, finally concluded to try the last resort—buy him. One morning while I was deputy clerk of the court, I was at work in the office alone. Judge Yager walked in, and the moment that he stepped in the office I saw that he was greatly agitated about something. Handing me a long envelope that had been opened he said to me, “Will, read that, and see what those dirty scoundrels are trying to do with me.” I took out the contents of the envelope and it was a warranty deed made to him by the company for an undivided one-fourth interest in all of the lots of the town of Belton, as well as the same interest in the unplatted part of the 640 acres not platted. Accompanying the deed was a nicely written letter, requesting him to accept the deed as a small token of the friendship and esteem the railroad company entertained for him. He immediately called for pen, ink and paper and sat down to a desk and began to write. After a while he got up and came into my desk and said to me, “Will, you know I am not a good pen man at best, and I am so excited I can scarcely hold a pen. I want you to copy this letter, exactly as I have written it.” Although it has been nearly fifty years ago since I copied that letter, I can almost give it verbatim.

“Independence—Sir: Yours of yesterday came this morning. If I had any doubts of your intended rascality before, I have none now. I am returning the deed you sent me, and want you to know, I am not for sale. As far as this world’s goods are concerned I am a poor man, but I am rich in the knowledge of the fact that I am trusted by my con-



stituents. I would rather die, and fill a pauper's grave, than to accept one dollar of your ill-gotten gains. Respectfully, (signed) James B. Yager."

When I had finished copying, I read it to him. He picked up a pen and signed his name to it, then he said, "Get a large envelope, put the letter and deed in it, and back it to this rascal at Kansas City." I did so, and then he said, "Put a stamp on it and take it down to the postoffice and mail it yourself, and make a record of the day you do it, so that hereafter, should anything ever be said about it, you can give the public the facts in the case." I did so and mailed it as he directed. A few days afterward, I met the man on the street, to whom I had directed it in Kansas City. I said to him, "I mailed you a letter a few days ago from Independence, did you get it?" A blush passed over his face immediately, and he replied, "Yes, I got it. That old fool is to d—n honest, he had just as well be rich as not."

Judge Yager joined the Masonic lodge early in life, and brought his demit with him when he came to Jackson County. He was a charter member and was made master of the first Masonic lodge in Jackson County, his picture now occupying a place of honor in the lodge room of Independence. When the Masons living around Raytown decided to organize a lodge there, they asked him to come out and help. He took his demit from Independence and put it with that lodge. The members elected him master, and he devoted his energies in helping them to get it into good working order.

When the Civil War commenced, Judge Yager was a freighter over the plains, and had several trains on the road hauling goods from Kansas City to Mexico. One of the trains was in charge of his son, Richard, or "Dick," as everyone called him. When "Dick" came home from one of his trips, he found that Jennison's Red Legs had paid his father's farm a visit and stripped it of everything they could carry off. He immediately quit the train business and joined the Bushwhackers. He became one of the leaders and was a desperate man. He was killed at Arrow Rock, in Saline County, just at the close of the war. While "Dick" was in the bush a company of soldiers were sent out to Judge Yager's home and arrested him. He was taken to Kansas City, kept in close confinement for a few days, and was sent to St. Louis, which at that time was the headquarters of this department. He was thrust into a dungeon in the old Gratiot street prison. He was not allowed to see or speak to anyone for nearly a month. One day the guard came and took him before the



provost-marshal. When he got there he was put through a terrible questioning. There was at that time a secret organization, known as the "Knights of the Golden Circle," in Indiana, Illinois and Ohio; they were supposed to be in sympathy with the South and the Southern Confederacy. Finally the marshal asked him if he was a member of any secret order or organization. He replied, "I am." "What order is it," asked the marshal. "I have been a member of the Masonic fraternity for over 30 years," replied Mr. Yager. Immediately the whole manner of the marshal changed. "Are you a member of any other secret organization," he asked. "I am not," replied Mr. Yager. Instead of being sent back to the dungeon, he was sent to a nice, clean, well-lighted room, and told his case would be attended to tomorrow. The next morning he was sent to General Schofield, the commanding officer of the department. After many questions were asked, and answered by Mr. Yager, General Schofield said to him, "Mr. Yager, I am satisfied that you are a loyal citizen of the United States, and I think your arrest was entirely uncalled for. I am going to give you papers that will protect you and your property from all Federal soldiers, and send you home. If you are again molested, just let me know, and I will attend to the men that do it." He came home and moved his family into Westport, and remained until the close of the war. He was never molested after his return from St. Louis.

The Civil War ruined him financially, the last years of his life being spent on a farm of 50 acres that belonged to his son-in-law, Mr. H. C. Harper, about three miles southwest of Independence, that is now owned by Mr. Chris W. Witthar, on the Blue Ridge boulevard. One grand thing about him was that financial reverses never soured him, or made him lose confidence in his fellow man. I do not know that any relatives of Judge Yager will ever read a line that I have written about him, but in doing it, I want to pay tribute to a man that I loved and admired. As clerk and deputy clerk of the County Court I served under him for 14 consecutive years, and in all that time, I never saw him do any act, by work or deed, that was not that of a high-minded, honorable, Christian gentleman. He was a devoted and faithful member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church for over 50 years. The life of such a man is an inspiration for young men to follow, and I wish that all young men that read this will make an honest endeavor to make his life a pattern for them to follow.

Just before the close of the last term of court in which he was to act as judge, a lot of his friends determined to make him a present that would show their appreciation of his untiring effort in behalf of his con-

stituents. A subscription was raised on which no person was allowed to give more than \$1. An elegant gold-headed can was purchased and properly inscribed. The amounts donated were clipped off the subscription list, and only the names of the donors remained. On the morning of the last day of court, and at 10 o'clock quite a concourse of people filed into the court room. Col. John N. Southern, of Independence, had been selected to make the presentation speech. As soon as opportunity afforded he advanced to the court and said: "Judge Yager, some of your friends have been watching your actions on this bench for a long time, and have concluded that you have done things for which they think that you should be caned, and it becomes my duty at this time to do the caning." Then he unwrapped the gift and handed it to the astonished judge, saying, "I hope that you will accept it as a very small token of the appreciation that we feel for your faithful performance of your duties as judge of the County Court during the last 14 years. May it be a memento and remembrance to you in your declining years. May you be the recipient of heaven's choicest blessings is our wish and prayer."

Before Mr. Southern was through talking the tears were falling from the venerable judge's eyes. His heart was too full for words. He could only say: "Friends, I have only done what I thought was right at all times. I thank you from the bottom of my heart." It was a scene never to be forgotten by those who witnessed it. This venerable old man that had served his people for 20 years—first and last—as a judge of the County Court, and during all that time holding the confidence and friendship without even a hint of anything except strict honesty and integrity. When the list of donors was handed him he scanned it closely, folded it carefully, and placing it in his pocket remarked, "That, to me, is one of the most valued documents that I ever owned."

## CHAPTER XIX

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### BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY

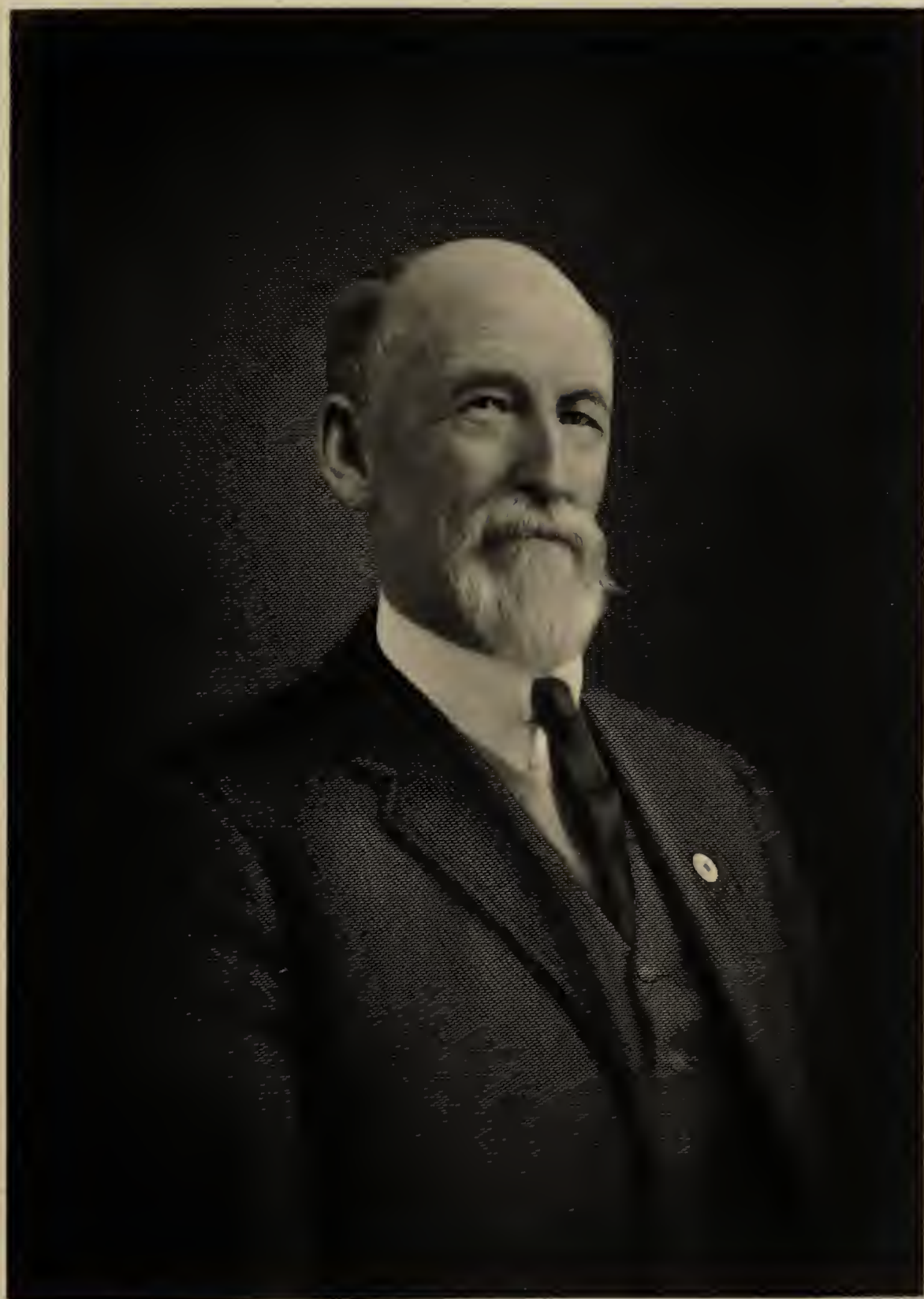
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**William Carroll Adams.**—The distinction of being the oldest native born resident of Blue township, and of Jackson County, belongs unquestionably to William Carroll Adams, who was born on a farm in the Blue bottoms, March 13, 1836. One hundred years ago, his father, Lynchburg Adams, then 16 years of age, came to Jackson County and was the first permanent settler in the northern part of this county. Lynchburg Adams was born near Lynchburg, Va., Feb. 22, 1804, and married Elizabeth Drake who was born in Howard County, Mo., Dec. 7, 1808. She was a daughter of Isaac Drake, a soldier of the Revolutionary War, in whose memory a monument was erected near Atherton by the Daughters of the American Revolution, he being a soldier of the Revolution who settled in Jackson County and died here. Lynchburg Adams came to Jackson County March 20, 1819 and was married near Sibley, Mo., Nov. 1, 1827. He entered land in the Blue bottoms and resided in this county until his death Dec. 6, 1873. His wife died Jan. 24, 1859. They had five children, four sons and a daughter. The first farm on which the elder Adams settled and whereon his son William Carroll Adams was born, has long since been engulfed and washed away by the Missouri River. In 1844, Mr. Adams purchased the Adams homestead near Atherton.

Lynchburg Adams erected the first house in Jackson County west of the Little Blue. In 1873 he was awarded the prize at the Old Settlers Meeting for being the oldest pioneer citizen of the county. This prize was a silver pitcher valued at \$25.

Isaac Drake, grandfather of William Carroll Adams, was one of the four Revolutionary heroes buried in Jackson County. He was born in Maryland and entered the army when 15 years of age. He was a pioneer of Osage township in this county and died on his farm near Sibley in 1837. He was the first coroner of Jackson County. His remains as well as the remains of Lynchburg Adams and his wife are buried in the Drake cemetery on the old homestead.





*William C. Adams*



William Carroll Adams was educated in the public schools and attended Chapel Hill School, attending school with the late Senator Cockrell. He studied for three months in William Jewell College. When the Civil War broke out he first enlisted in the State Guards under General Price and at Springfield, Mo., he joined the Confederate forces. He served for four years with the Southern army and spent ten months as a prisoner of war in Federal prison at Johnson's Island, having been captured near Vicksburg, Miss. He was twice wounded at the battle of Lexington, and was again wounded at Corinth, Miss. He returned home after the war and resumed farming and stock raising. He has prospered and is owner of 320 acres of splendid farm land near Atherton.

Mr. Adams was married the first time April 9, 1868, to Sarah J. Heard, who was born Nov. 14, 1848 and died Oct. 21, 1882, her remains being interred in Green's Chapel cemetery. She was a daughter of Jessie Heard, a pioneer of Jackson County. The children born of this marriage are: Francis S., deceased; Edmund L., Atherton, Mo.; Mrs. Susan E. Horan, Dallas, Texas; Mrs. Dora May Hall, Kansas City, Mo.; Charles F., at home with his father; and one child died in infancy. On Feb. 26, 1884, Mr. Adams was married to Mrs. Fannie Jepson, nee Samples, and to this union six children have been born as follows: Mrs. Jessie Ann Hall, Kansas City, Mo.; James W., at home; Mrs. Mary Helen Harbin, Independence; John Quincy Adams, Pauline Ruth Adams, and George Carroll Adams, at home.

Mr. Adams is a Democrat but is an Independent voter. In 1879 he was elected to the State Legislature on the Greenback ticket and represented Jackson County for one term. He has always been active and prominent in county and local civic affairs and has served as school director. He is a member of the Methodist Church, South and has served as steward of his church. He is known widely as an upright, honest and industrious citizen who has lived according to his beliefs and is deeply religious. Although past 84 years of age he is enjoying good health and is sound physically and mentally, endowed with a keen and active mind which advancing years have not dimmed. He takes a lively interest in present day affairs, while he is ever ready to dwell upon the old days of the past when Jackson County was largely an unsettled wilderness. He recalls his first trip to Independence in the early forties when he rode to the then frontier town with his mother on horseback. Mrs. Adams took with her a bolt of jean which she had woven with her own hands and sold it for 50 cents per yard. The children of the Lynchburg Adams family



were reared with the strictest economy, the beverage at meal times being sage tea, coffee only being served when company came on Sundays. Corn bread was served on the table at all times except when company arrived on Sundays and then the luxury of white bread was given the members of the family.

**Fleming Pendleton**, of the firm of Pendleton and Gentry, who are engaged in the drug business at Independence, Mo., is a native of Kentucky. He was born in Lincoln County, Kentucky, Aug. 1, 1853, a son of James and Nancy (Spoonamore) Pendleton, both natives of Kentucky. James Pendleton was born in Lincoln County, Kentucky. His parents were both Virginians, and migrated to Kentucky at an early day.

James Pendleton came to Missouri in 1859, with his family, and settled near Hickman's Mills, in Jackson County. Later he moved to Blue township, where he bought a farm of 200 acres. His wife died on that place in 1872, and he died at Independence in 1892. They were the parents of the following children: Micajah, deceased; Alfred, deceased; Eberly, deceased; William, deceased; J. C., who was engaged in the drug business in Independence for several years, is now deceased; Thomas, an employee of the Standard Oil Company, Independence; Mrs. Emma Flannigan, deceased; Richard, a retired merchant at San Antonio, Tex.; Fleming, the subject of this sketch, and Timothy, who died at Riverside, Calif. By a former marriage James Pendleton was the father of two children, John T. and Logan.

Fleming Pendleton received his education in the public schools of Jackson County. Mr. Pendleton has been engaged in the mercantile business in various capacities since boyhood. He first entered the employ of Wilson and Pendleton, engaged in the drygoods and clothing business at Independence. He was thus engaged for ten years. He was then employed by the M. R. Wright Clothing Company for two years. In 1889 Mr. Fleming bought an interest in his present business. The store was then being conducted by O. H. Gentry, his present partner, and J. C. Pendleton, a brother of Fleming Pendleton. J. C. Pendleton conducted the business alone up to 1881, when he sold an interest to Mr. Gentry. This is the pioneer drugstore of Independence. They carry a full line of drugs and drug sundries, and have an extensive trade.

Mr. Pendleton was united in marriage Nov. 24, 1891, with Miss Sally Lincoln, a native of St. Joseph, Mo. She is a daughter of Isaac and Louise Lincoln, the former of whom is now deceased, and the latter resides with Mrs. Pendleton. To Mr. and Mrs. Pendleton have been born the following

children: Fleming W., who served in the United States Navy during the World War, in the capacity of radio operator; Rice L., served as regimental sergeant in the 129th Field Artillery, 35th Division in France, during the World War. He entered the service Aug. 1, 1917, and after a period of training at Fort Sill, went to France with his unit in April, 1918. He was discharged and mustered out of the service May 6, 1919. The third son born to Mr. and Mrs. Pendleton, Wiley E., is now in the employ of Swift and Company. He was at the Students' Training School at Columbia, and was at the Naval Training School. The youngest child, Sallie Adele, is a student in the Independence High School.

**Nealy A. Harris**, the efficient chief of police of Independence, Mo., is a native of Jackson County, and a descendant of pioneer settlers of this state. He was born on a farm a few miles east of Independence, June 4, 1878, and is a son of R. A. and Mary E. (Dillingham) Harris. R. A. Harris was also a native of Jackson County. He was born on a farm where the fair grounds are now located, in 1854. He was a son of Samuel Harris, a native of Virginia, who came to Missouri with his parents when he was about ten years of age. Samuel Harris grew to manhood here and married Jane Hall, a native of Jackson County. He was killed by a kick from a mule. His wife, Jane Hall Harris, lived to the advanced age of 98 years and the remains are buried in the Bridges cemetery, south of Blue Spring.

R. A. Harris was a soldier in the Confederate army and served under Quantrell. He died in May, 1906, at the age of 76 years and his widow now resides at Independence with her son, Nealy A. Harris. They were the parents of two children: Mrs. Hester A. Holloway, Independence, Mo., and Nealy A., the subject of this sketch.

Nealy A. Harris was reared on a farm in Jackson County and educated in the public schools. When he was 20 years of age, he entered the employ of the street railway company, in Kansas City, Mo. In 1909, he was appointed special officer at 12th and Main streets, Kansas City, and served in that capacity for two years. He then came to Independence as a special guard over prisoners at the jail. In 1913, he was employed at the city light plant and in 1914 he was appointed assistant chief of police of Independence, and two years later, he was elected to the office of chief of police, and has since ably served in that capacity. Mr. Harris is a conscientious and fearless officer and has made a most commendable record. He is active and alert in his work and is getting results. In 1919, he collected \$10,044.50 for the purchase of a Dodge police patrol and ambulance car



for the police department. He circulated the subscription for this fund and it was through his efforts that this necessary modern equipment was added to the police department of Independence.

Mr. Harris was united in marriage in 1909 with Miss Anna Hagerthorn, of Seymour, Iowa. She died March 18, 1919, at the age of 33 years, leaving a son, Richard A., who is now seven years of age.

Mr. Harris is a member of the Woodmen of the World and the Knights of Pythias.

**Joseph Alfred McCurdy**, deputy county assessor, former blacksmith for 39 years, Independence, Mo., was born in this city, March 27, 1859. He was a son of John G. and Elizabeth R. (Beal) McCurdy.

John G. McCurdy was born in Virginia, March 20, 1818 and died Feb. 25, 1912. Mrs. Elizabeth R. McCurdy died in 1876 at the age of 55 years. The McCurdys came to Independence or to Jackson County in 1848 by the river route, landing at Wayne City. The elder McCurdy followed the trade of blacksmith until 1853, and then purchased a shop at the corner of North Main and White Oak streets. His business prospered and he added a second story to the shop and followed his trade until he attained the great age of 90 years. J. A. McCurdy, his son, has in his possession a hammer which his father made in his ninetieth year. The children of the family were: Mrs. Lizzie B. Powell, Independence; John S., Independence; James W., served two terms as county collector, and is now with a building and loan association, Kansas City; J. A., of this sketch; Henry L., a lumberman and banker of Stafford, Kan.

The first teacher who instructed J. A. McCurdy, in his boyhood days, was Miss Susan Leader, who was assistant to Paul Glave who conducted a private school. When 17 years old he began to learn the blacksmith trade under his father and he followed his trade continuously until March 1, 1915.

Mr. McCurdy has residence property in Independence and owns the livery barn just south of his residence which is located at 222 South Main street. This barn was formerly used by the stage coach company, prior to the advent of the railroads. It is Mr. McCurdy's recollection that the first railroad in the state was operated between Independence and Wayne City. This road was over three miles in length and was operated by horse power. The track was of wooden rails and trains were run over this road in 1848 when Mr. McCurdy came to this county.

On the door of the McCurdy blacksmith shop which is still in use, are many brands made from branding irons used in the old days and which



were made by him for the purpose of branding cattle and horses. One of them, the "U.S.M." branding iron, was used by the government in branding the horses which hauled the mail wagons across the plains.

Mr. McCurdy was married Aug. 20, 1900 to Ollie J. Craig, a daughter of Elijah and Nancy Elizabeth (Warren) Craig. Mrs. McCurdy was born and reared in Jackson County.

For two years, 1916-1917, Mr. McCurdy filled the office of city councilman and for the past two years he has served as deputy assessor of the county.

At the time of Price's raid in this vicinity during the Civil War, J. A. McCurdy was five years old, but the incident which he relates in the following paragraph was so vividly impressed on his memory that he has never forgotten it.

"One of the Confederate soldiers rode up to the McCurdy home. Joseph Alfred and his younger brother, Henry, were playing in the yard. The soldier asked, 'What are you?' Joseph A. promptly answered, 'I'm a Federal.' And, 'What are you?' he asked Henry McCurdy. Just as promptly, Henry replied, 'I'm a Rebel.' 'I have something here for you,' the soldier said, and he took from his pocket a package containing several sticks of candy and handed it to the "little rebel". Joseph A. McCurdy from that time on was a "rebel".

**John Nelson Southern**, who for 50 years has been prominent in the affairs of Jackson County, and is at present one of the oldest lawyers in the county, having resided here since 1868, when he first came to Independence, was born in the mountain country of east Tennessee, Aug. 25, 1838. He received a good education in his home locality, and taught school for two years, studied law and was admitted to the bar of his native State in 1860.

Mr. Southern enlisted in Company I of the Fifty-ninth Tennessee Regiment, Confederate Army, at the outbreak of the Civil War, and was on detached duty until he went into active service. He served under General Bragg on his invasion of Kentucky, and when Bragg began his retreat he was transferred to the department of the Mississippi, under General Pemberton. He also served under Generals Longstreet and Breckinbridge. In July, 1865, he came to Missouri and located in Lafayette County, where he taught school for two years. He then came to Independence, and soon became proprietor and editor of the Independence "Sentinel," conducting this newspaper for a matter of 11 years. He then disposed of the "Sentinel" to

Capt. James E. Payne, who is now in the Federal service at Washington, D. C.

Mr. Southern was married Dec. 20, 1860, to Miss Martha Allen, of Tennessee. The children born to this marriage are as follow: William Southern, Jr., founder and publisher of the Independence "Examiner"; Dr. John N. Southern, a physician, Monroe City, Mo.; Judge Allen C. Southern, judge of the Jackson County Circuit Court, re-elected in 1918; Miss Ethel Southern, Miss Mabel Southern, at home; Mattie, wife of John L. Cortner, Florence, Ala.

Mr. Southern, for more than 50 years past, has been one of the foremost scholars and attorneys of this section of Missouri, and is still in active practice at the great age of 82 years. For a period of 10 years after coming to Independence he was an editorial writer on the staff of the Kansas City "Times," then edited by Morrison Mumford. In 1881 he entered actively into the practice of law, and during past years he has been connected with some of the most important litigation in the courts of western Missouri. He had charge of the suit brought to compel the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company to rebuild and operate their line from Independence to Kansas City. The railway company had purchased this line, torn it up and abandoned it, and the county brought suit to compel them to rebuild and operate the line. Mr. Southern and associate counsel carried this case to the Supreme Court and won.

Mr. Southern also represented the winners in the famous Mormon Temple suit brought by the Reorganized Church of the Latter-Day Saints for possession of the original site of the Mormon Church in Independence. This plot of ground was believed by all Mormons to be sacred ground inasmuch as it was selected and consecrated by Joseph Smith, founder of the Mormon Church as the site for the Temple of Zion. The Reorganized Church of Latter-Day Saints claimed title to the "sacred ground" because they alleged themselves to be the legitimate successors of the original church. Under the Missouri laws title to the property was vested in the Hedrickite branch of the Mormon Church, and as their attorney, Mr. Southern and associate counsel, carried the case to the United States Supreme Court, and won a favorable decision, the court holding that title through Mesne Conveyances was better than a title obtained through revelations from the church prophets.

The largest damage verdict ever rendered by the Jackson County Circuit Court was won by Mr. Southern, after being twice tried before the Supreme Court of the State of Missouri. His client, Ora Turnbow, when



five years old, had been run over by an electric car of the Kansas City Electric Line, and both legs cut off. The Circuit Court gave a verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$30,000, and this sum was reduced by the Supreme Court to \$27,000, including interest. Mr. Southern received the check from the company for \$27,000 when he had passed the 80th milestone of his long life.

In 1884 Mr. Southern was elected Presidential elector from this district on the Democrat ticket, and cast the vote of his district in the electoral college for Grover Cleveland.

Mr. Southern was associate attorney with the county counselor and conducted the defense on behalf of Jackson County in the suit brought to enjoin the county court from appropriating two-thirds of the dram shop revenue for the public road fund. His contention was sustained by the Supreme Court, and the act of the Legislature authorizing the appropriation of the funds for said purpose was declared constitutional.

He was also attorney in behalf of the county to have declared unconstitutional the legislative enactment which provided for taxing Jackson County for the building and maintainance of a reform school in the county. He won this suit, and the Supreme Court declared the act unconstitutional.

For 35 years Colonel Southern resided on his farm east of Independence, and had erected thereon a stone dwelling house, built of stone quarried on his land. For the past 15 years he has resided in the city.

For 50 years he has been a member of the Presbyterian Church, and has been an elder of the church for 35 years. He is the oldest living Mason of the oldest Masonic Lodge in the county, Lodge No. 76, of Independence. He became a member of this lodge in 1869. His three sons are also members of the order.

Colonel Southern was severely wounded while serving with the Confederate forces. He received his wound while executing an order given by General Longstreet, in the spring of 1864, and was incapacitated for further service with the army. When the war was over and he was discharged from the hospital at Bristol, Va., the railroads were torn up and he had to contrive a way to get to his home at Morristown, Tenn. He secured an old buggy, hitched to it an old army horse, and started on the long drive to his old home. On the way he passed through the camp of a division of Federal soldiers at Greenville, Tenn., and learned for the first time that President Lincoln had been assassinated. Grief stricken over the news, the men were all bowed down with sorrow, and Colonel Southern recalls that throughout all the vast encampment hardly a sound could be heard. It was the most solemn and impressive sight that he had ever



witnessed—a great body of soldiers going about their tasks so quietly that not a sound could be heard. He, himself, was grieved to hear of the death of the President, and sorrowed with his former enemies.

John Nelson Southern comes of an old and distinguished American family of Virginia. His great-grandfather, with whom he conversed in 1860, fought in the American Revolution, and was 100 years old on the day that he related to Mr. Southern incidents of his war service. An ancestor of his mother also fought at the Battle of Brandywine, under Washington. His great-grandfather fought with General Jackson and other Tennesseans in the Carolinas.

**Dr. Oliver Caldwell Sheley**, a prominent physician of Independence, Mo., has practiced his profession here for over 40 years and in years of service is the oldest practicing physician in Independence. He is a native of Jackson County and a descendant of pioneer families of this state.

Dr. Sheley was born on a farm, two and one-half miles southwest of Independence, June 23, 1855. He is a son of James K. and Mary Ann Elizabeth (Smart) Sheley, both natives of Kentucky. James K. Sheley was born in Scott County, Ky., March 17, 1815, and died in Nov., 1893. He was a son of Horace Sheley, a native of Virginia, who came from Kentucky to Missouri in 1828, and located near New Bloomfield. He died in Calloway County. Mary Ann Elizabeth (Smart) Sheley, mother of Dr. Sheley, was born in Kentucky in 1821, and died March 4, 1872.

James K. Sheley came to Jackson County from Calloway County in 1852, and settled two and one-half miles southwest of Independence, where he bought a farm from Joseph Moon. During the Civil War he returned to Calloway County, where he remained until 1867, when he returned to Jackson County. He was a man of strong character and deep convictions and was a prominent factor in the affairs of Calloway County and also prominently identified himself with Jackson County after coming here. He served in the State Legislature, representing Calloway County in the forties. After coming to Jackson County, he was appointed judge of the Probate and Common Pleas Court by Governor Sterling Price. He was also a member of the State Convention, which was called at the beginning of the Civil War, to decide whether Missouri should secede from the Union. He was elected to the State Legislature from Jackson County in 1872 and served two sessions.

To James K. and Mary Ann Elizabeth (Smart) Sheley were born the following children: Mrs. Sally Henderson, died in 1917; William S., died in California, about 1880; James K., Jr., died in Texas in 1891; Horace, an

attorney at Independence; Lizzie, married H. H. Noland and died at Independence in 1891; Robert, died at Independence in 1891; and Dr. Oliver Caldwell Sheley, the subject of this sketch.

Dr. Sheley was educated in Independence and after receiving a good preparatory education entered the Kansas City Medical College, where he was graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1876. In 1891 and 1897 he attended the New York Polyclinic. In 1876, shortly after completing his medical course, Dr. Sheley practiced in Kansas City for a short time. He then went near Blue Springs, Mo., and later practiced at Pink Hill. In 1889, he came to Independence, where he has since successfully devoted himself to the practice of his profession. He has been a life long student of the science of his great profession and his careful and well directed professional efforts have been rewarded by uniform success.

Jan. 17, 1878, Dr. Sheley was united in marriage with Miss Lucinda J. Warren, a daughter of Nelson A. and Lucinda (Robertson) Warren. Nelson A. Warren was born at Cape May, New Jersey, Jan. 19, 1812. He came west in early manhood and lived in Indiana for a time and in 1833 settled in Jackson County, Mo. In 1834, he received a government appointment in connection with the Indian service in Nebraska and remained there three years. He then returned to Jackson County and bought some land and entered some from the government six miles east of Independence. This farm is now owned by W. W. Fields. Mr. Warren died in 1891 and his wife died Nov. 12, 1856.

To Dr. Sheley and wife have been born five children as follow: Mary Emma married A. M. Hoyt, Independence; Oliver Caldwell, Jr., the present county surveyor of Jackson County; James K., Jr., an electrician, Bakersfield, Calif.; Ada, married Fred H. Briggs and Dr. Nelson Warren, now a surgeon in the United States navy. He is a graduate of the Independence High School, the Missouri State University, and the Washington University. He entered the service of the United States navy in 1917 and at the present writing is in the Orient with the navy.

**James C. Noel**, member of the firm of Noel and Yankee, real estate loan and insurance, 127 West Lexington street, Independence, was born on a farm near Lone Jack, Mo., July 23, 1884. He is a son of James W. and Maretha (Cox) Noel, old settlers of the Lone Jack neighborhood.

James W. Noel was born Sept. 18, 1841, on the old Noel homestead, near Lone Jack, moved to Lees Summit, Mo., in 1901 and died Sept. 19, 1919. Maretha Noel died April 18, 1900 and her remains were interred in the Lone Jack cemetery. James W. Noel was the son of James Noel, who



settled near Lone Jack in 1834. His grandson, James C. Noel, owns the old farm. The children of James W. and Maretha Noel are: James C. of this review; William Lee, died at the age of 11 years; and Forrest R., residing on the home place.

The education of James C. Noel was obtained in the district school and the Lees Summit High School and William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo. For ten years he filled the post of assistant cashier of the Citizens Bank of Lees Summit. In June, 1917, he came to Independence and engaged in the real estate and insurance business with W. K. Yankee.

Mr. Noel was married March 3, 1908 to Miss Maggie Barkley Lee, a daughter of Dr. J. C. and Fannie (Hearn) Lee, of Lees Summit. Dr. Lee came to Jackson County from Cynthiana, Ky., when a young man and practiced medicine at Lees Summit for many years prior to his death. He became prominent in medical circles in this section of Missouri. His widow resides with her daughter, Mrs. Maggie Noel. Mr. and Mrs. Noel have a son, Lee Noel, born May 7, 1914.

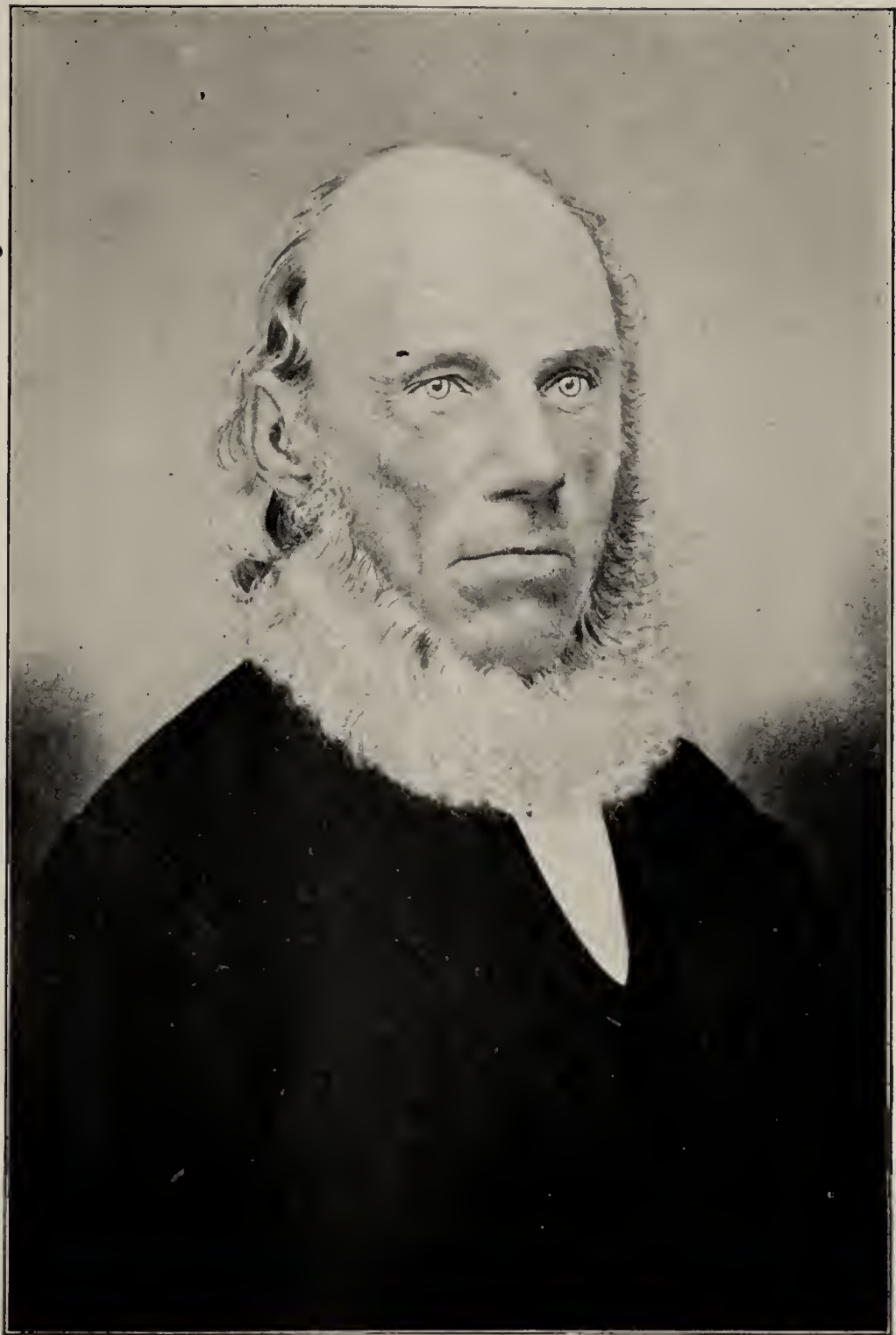
Mr. Noel is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Independence and is a Royal Arch Mason.

**Lynchburg Adams.**—One hundred years ago this fertile landscape on the banks of the mighty Missouri River was a wilderness of forest, valley and plain. Indians were then encamped along the streams and the territory now known as Jackson County was a great hunting ground. It was a hunter's paradise. A rich and fertile soil awaited the husbandman to build the homes and begin the creation of a new civic section of the great state of Missouri. Lynchburg Adams was the first real pioneer in what is now Jackson County. He was the first citizen to establish a permanent home in this county. He was a great hunter and rifle shot, as well as a good farmer who made a success of his affairs. The first farm which Lynchburg Adams owned in Jackson County has long since been washed away by the Missouri River, but his descendants are still living on the land which he owned at Atherton, Mo.

Lynchburg Adams was born in Lynchburg, Va., Feb. 22, 1804. A few years after his birth his parents and the Adams family moved to Kentucky. Here amid primitive surroundings, Lynchburg Adams was reared.

The early settlers who were endeavoring to wrest the "Dark and Bloody Ground" from the Indians in those days were a hardy and adventurous lot and Lynchburg Adams grew up with a knowledge of the use of firearms and was inured to the hardships of the pioneer life. In 1819





LYNCHBURG ADAMS.



he set his face to the westward and traveled down the Ohio and up the Mississippi and Missouri rivers to the vicinity of Boone's salt works near Cooper's Fort opposite Boonville, Mo. He spent the winter of 1819 and 1820 at this point, and when spring came he moved up the river and crossed at Arrow Rock, arriving there March 3, 1820. He camped at the foot of the hill just east of Fire Prairie Creek and just on the line of what is now known as Jackson County. The family settled near Fort Osage. John and Joseph McKinney in the following year, 1821, planted 20 acres of corn and Mr. Adams helped them gather it from the field just above the mouth of Fire Prairie Creek. His wages for this work was three pecks of corn daily. The nearest grist mill in those days was in the Miami River bottom in Carroll County, and Lynchburg Adams traveled there to get his grist of corn ground. In the summer of 1822, in company with John Ross and his son Mike he camped and lived under a shelving rock, a mile below Mize Ferry and near the old Berry Hill place. They hunted all summer long. Deer were plentiful and they saw herds of as many as 300 deer. Bee trees were plentiful in the woods and all that was necessary was for them to cut down a bee tree and gather the stores of honey. Six to twelve bee trees could be found easily in a day's search. The wax obtained after rendering the honey could be sold for 25 cents per pound and Mr. Adams earned his first real money in this county in that manner. Ammunition in those days was very high in price and the hunter had to be very sparing in its use. A turkey was never shot unless the settler desired a change of diet and turkey would mean a change from venison. Emigrants began to arrive in 1824 and 1825 and in the latter year, Mr. Adams, working with Isaac Allen, cut the logs for the first house and raised the first house and cultivated the first ground west of the Little Blue in this county. This settlement was near the Old Blue Bottoms camping ground.

Mr. Adams was married Jan. 1, 1827 to Elizabeth Drake, who was born in Missouri and came to Jackson County in 1825, her parents settling on the Blue bottoms. Mr. Adams was handicapped by lameness but managed to pay for a farm of 120 acres upon which he made his first real home. Along came the great flood of 1844 and washed away all of his possessions. He must start anew and he began the work of improving a farm and settled on the place now owned by his son, William Carroll Adams. He died, honored and respected by all who knew him, in December, 1873.

Lynchburg Adams learned to read in his old age and derived much



enjoyment from the perusal of newspapers and books when too old to toil. He was a rugged and determined character whom no misfortune could daunt. He was honest, conscientious and was a true friend to all with whom he associated. Imbued with pluck and determination he succeeded in amassing a competence and his spirit was passed onward to his descendants who occupy high places among the citizenship of Jackson County.

**Samuel H. Woodson**, an attorney at law, and former mayor of Independence, trustee for estates, with offices in First National Bank building, Independence, Mo., is a native of this city. He was born in Independence, Sept. 29, 1857 and is a son of Judge Samuel H. Woodson.

Judge Samuel H. Woodson, the elder, was born in Jessamine County, Ky., in 1815, and was a son of Samuel H. Woodson, a prominent citizen of that county who succeeded Henry Clay to his seat in Congress in 1820, and was re-elected in 1822, serving two terms in the national house of representatives from his district. Mr. Woodson, father of the subject of this sketch came to Independence in 1840 and practiced law in this city. A few years after coming here he formed a partnership with William Chrisman and Abraham Cummings. In 1856 he was elected to represent this district in Congress and was re-elected in 1858, resigning his seat in Congress in 1860 on account of impending civil war between the North and the South, his sympathies being with the cause of the Southern states. In 1875 he was appointed to the office of circuit judge and was elected to the office in 1881, serving until his death, in June, 1881. Judge Woodson held court on the very day of his death. His wife was Margaret Ashby, a cousin of General Ashby, of Virginia. She was born in Madison County, Ky., and died at the age of 92 years in Independence, where she had made her home for 72 years.

The children born to Judge Samuel H. and Margaret Woodson are as follow: William H., an attorney at Liberty, Mo., who has served as prosecuting attorney of Clay County for eight terms; Meade was an attorney and banker at Kansas City, now deceased; Margaret, widow of Henry C. Harper, who died at Liberty, Mo.; Nellie, widow of B. E. Reese, Independence, Mo.; Sallie W., widow of A. F. Sawyer, who was president of the Chrisman-Sawyer Banking Company, of Independence, Mo.

Samuel H. Woodson, the youngest son of the family, was educated in the Independence public schools and William Jewell College at Liberty, Mo. He then pursued a course at the Albany Law School, Albany, N. Y., and began the practice of law in 1881 at Kansas City, Mo. After several years

of successful practice, he retired on account of failing health and has since devoted his attention to the loan business and serving as trustee for estates. He was elected mayor of Independence in 1898 and served in this capacity until 1902.

Mr. Woodson was married to Miss Jennie McCoy, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Stewart) McCoy, the former a pioneer of Independence, coming here with his brother, William, in 1838. The brothers first engaged in the mercantile business. Later, William McCoy embarked in the banking business and John McCoy established a woolen mill. Both prospered and were very successful. For 55 years, the late John McCoy was superintendent of the Presbyterian Sunday School, a record which has probably never been equalled for fidelity to service anywhere. Mr. and Mrs. Woodson have two daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret.

Miss Elizabeth Woodson was prominently identified with the Y. W. C. A. work at Waco, Texas, during the World War, and during the demobilization of the army she has been engaged in similar work at Oklahoma City and Kansas City, Mo., specializing in social betterment work.

Miss Margaret Woodson was connected with the Red Cross in Europe during the World War and was in charge of the entertainment department in the hospitals in France. Both ladies are graduates of the State University at Columbia and the National Park Seminary at Washington, D. C.

Mr. Woodson is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and he is a member of the board of managers of the Pythian Home at Springfield, Mo.

**Rowland Thomas Procter**, deceased, former civil engineer, and county surveyor of Jackson County, was born in Independence, Aug. 8, 1862. He was a son of Rev. Alexander and Caroline (Shaw) Procter. Rev. Alexander Procter was born in Fayette County, Kentucky, in 1825, and was the second son of Rowland T. and Diana (Chapman) Procter, both of whom were born and reared in Kentucky.

Rev. Alexander Procter came to Missouri in 1836 and settled in Randolph County with his parents. When 18 years of age he entered school at Paris, Mo., to obtain higher learning. Having joined the Christian Church at an early age, he was educated at Bethany College, through the bounty of Alexander Campbell, founder of the Christian Church. Reverend Campbell donated the proceeds of a book which he had written to the purpose of defraying the expenses of a ministerial student. The choice fell upon young Procter, and he studied for the ministry under Reverend Campbell, who was at that time president of Bethany College. He preached



his first sermon at Huntsville, Mo., and filled the pulpits in many Missouri counties during the pioneer days. He assisted in the organization of many Christian churches. He was married in 1857 to Mrs. Caroline Pre-witt, nee Shaw, of St. Francis, Mo.

During the Civil War days Rev. Procter did much to keep the peace between the friends of the South and the Union adherents in Independence, where he resided during the later years of his life.

Rowland Thomas Procter was educated in Woodland College, and studied for the profession of civil engineering, a work which he had taken up in his boyhood. He served as city engineer of Independence for some years. In 1901 he was appointed superintendent of Swope Park, under Mr. Kessler, and had much to do with the planning and construction of the driveways, the boulevard and the main entrance to the park. He had charge of practically all of the construction work, and uncovered a deposit of fine stone, which was used in the work done in the park. He found this rock deposit after the authorities had received a report from an expert that the park did not contain any available stone deposits, and the expert had advised purchasing Carthage stone. This discovery enabled the park board to save thousands of dollars in park construction work alone. Mr. Procter was elected county surveyor of Jackson County in 1908, and was again elected in 1912. He died Jan. 5, 1915, while serving his second term in office.

Rowland T. Procter was married Nov. 12, 1901, to Maude Millard, of Independence. To this union was born a daughter: Miss Elsie Rowland, now a sophomore in Independence High School. Mrs. Maude (Millard) Procter is a daughter of Alden C. and Elsie (Tower) Millard, natives of Berkshire County, Massachusetts.

After their marriage in 1860, at North Adams, Mass., Mr. and Mrs. Alden C. Millard removed to Chicago, Ill., and were living in that city at the time of the great fire. Mr. Millard was connected with the firm of Millard and Decker, printers and binders. In 1879 Mr. Millard removed to Saline County, Kansas, and after a residence of a few years near Salina, he came to Kansas City, and took charge of the Peru Plow and Wheel Company, in the West Bottoms. For 25 years he had charge of the publication of the Millard Implement Directory, a valuable trade magazine, which he originated and published. He made his home in Independence for a number of years prior to his death, and was elected mayor of the city on the Republican ticket and served one term. Alden C. Millard was born July 17, 1838, and died June 8, 1909. Mrs. Millard was born July 19,



1840, in North Adams, Mass., and died Nov. 23, 1916. They are buried in Mt. Washington cemetery, where Mr. Millard had purchased one of the first lots sold in this cemetery.

The Procter family residence is situated at 1235 Main Street South. Rowland Thomas Procter was a useful citizen, whose life was well spent in behalf of his county and city. One of the things which he did in connection with his work in beautifying Swope Park is well worth recording. He had charge of the arrangement of a box buried in the cornerstone at the entrance of the park, which contains a history of the late Thomas Swope, the donor, and the names of the parties connected with the undertaking.

**Edward E. Kirby**, chief deputy county clerk of Jackson County is a native of Jackson County and a member of one of the old and prominent pioneer families of this county. He was born on a farm three miles south of Buckner on June 19, 1870, and is a son of William R. and Susan R. (Capelle) Kirby.

William R. Kirby was born in Kentucky, May 6, 1831, his parents being descendants of the first settlers of the United States. When quite a young man he moved to Texas. Coming to Missouri in 1858, he settled in the Pink Hill neighborhood and later located on a farm south of Buckner in 1868. He purchased 160 acres of land for the sum of \$285. He later sold 40 acres of the farm, the remainder being in possession of the family until 1915 when it was sold. In 1862 Mr. Kirby went to California by the overland route, the trip requiring five months and 23 days across the plains and mountains. He remained on the Pacific coast until 1867 and then returned home by way of the Isthmus of Panama. Upon his return to Jackson County he settled down to farming. Mr. Kirby died Jan. 7, 1908 and his remains are buried in Blue Springs cemetery.

To William R. and Susan Kirby were born three children, as follow: Edward E. Kirby of this review; Mrs. Sallie A. Slaughter, living near Grain Valley; Durward B. Kirby, a farmer north of Grain Valley; Truston W. Kirby, cashier of the Citizens State Bank of Blue Springs. The mother of the foregoing children, Susan R. (Capelle) Kirby was born in Jackson County and was born and reared on the farm now owned by Edward E. Kirby nearly a mile west of Grain Valley. She was a daughter of Britton Capelle, a pioneer of Jackson County who came to Missouri from Kentucky in 1839. Britton Capelle was born in North Carolina, Oct. 12, 1809. When a child, his parents moved from North Carolina to Kentucky and after Britton had located in this county, his father came here and lived in this county until his death in 1850. Britton Capelle died in 1889 and is buried

in the Lobb cemetery. His wife, Sarah (Clayton) Capelle, died in August, 1872, and is also buried in the Lobb cemetery.

Edward E. Kirby attended the Long Branch School and studied for two years in Woodland College, Independence. He attended business college in Kansas City for one year. In 1895 he was appointed deputy county treasurer and served for two years in that capacity. He then returned to the farm and followed this vocation until 1907, when he went to Oklahoma and secured a farm in Comanche County, remaining there for two years. For the past seven years he has filled the office of deputy county clerk and was appointed chief deputy in the county clerk's office, Jan. 1, 1919. Mr. Kirby's farm west of Grain Valley consists of 60 acres and is devoted to fruit growing. The Kirby orchard consists of 15 acres of apple trees which produced 4,000 bushels of apples during the season of 1919.

Mr. Kirby was married in 1898 to Hattie M. Smith of Pink Hill, Mo., a daughter of Sterling and Ida Smith, the former of whom is deceased and the latter lives in Phoenix, Ariz. Two children have blessed this union: Lena Rue, a graduate of Independence High School, now a student in Kansas University, Lawrence, Kans.; C. E. Kirby, a student in second year high school, Independence. The Kirby residence is located at 803 West Maple street.

**Richard H. Marquette**, deputy assessor of Jackson County, was born in Monroe County, Mo., April 30, 1861. His parents were John A. and Violet (Roe) Marquette, natives, respectively, of Pennsylvania and Virginia.

John A. Marquette enlisted with the Confederate forces under General Porter at the outbreak of the Civil War and was killed at Kirksville, Mo., July 22, 1862. He was shot by the Federals while he was a prisoner of war, and his remains were buried at Kirksville. His widow subsequently died in Monroe County, leaving children as follow: Mrs. Sallie Barr, deceased; Mrs. Rosa Raplee, Shelby County, Mo.; John W. Marquette, Los Angeles, Calif.; Richard H., subject of this sketch; and Elizabeth, deceased.

After studying at Shelbina Collegiate Institute, following his primary education in the district schools of his native county, Richard H. Marquette worked on the neighboring farms. He earned money to pay his way through school by farm labor. When he was 17 years old his mother died. He followed farming until 1891 when he engaged in the manufacture of cigars at Shelbina, Mo. He next moved to Lees Summit and followed his trade of cigar maker in that town until he was appointed deputy county assessor in 1917.



Mr. Marquette was married Aug. 11, 1886 to Willie A. Sparks, of Shelby County, Mo., a daughter of Robert T. and Elizabeth (Warren) Sparks, both deceased. Four children have been born to this marriage: Roland A., married Helen Fenton, Lees Summit; Samuel Lee married Mariè Smith, Harrisonville, Mo.; Mary, wife of Fred Burkhardt, Kansas City, Mo.; and Violet Elizabeth, a sophomore in the high school. Mr. and Mrs. Marquette have five grandchildren: Nora Lee and Mary Elizabeth Marquette; W. R. Marquette; Frederick and Billy Lee Burkhardt. The family residence is located in Lees Summit.

Mr. Marquette is a capable and honest public official and has won the confidence and high esteem of his neighbors and associates wherever he is known. He is a valued and industrious county official.

Frank Beets, proprietor of the Auto Replacement Parts Company, Independence, Mo. was born on a farm ten miles east of Independence in 1892. He is a son of J. D. and Margaret (Hifner) Beets who reside at 1016 West College street, Independence.

J. D. Beets was born in Cass County, near Harrisonville, Mo., in 1854. Mrs. Margaret Beets was born in Clay County, Mo., in 1864. They were married near Atherton, Mo., and have reared a family of ten children as follow: Boyd, Independence; Floyd J., Independence; Mrs. Everett Winfrey, Atherton, Mo.; Henry, a farmer near Atherton, Mo.; Frank, subject of this sketch; Ila, Mona, Thomas, Chadwick and J. D., Jr., at home.

Frank Beets was educated in the public schools and the Atherton High School where he studied for two years. Prior to engaging in his present business, he was selling Overland automobiles. When the shortage of repair parts occurred in 1918 and the difficulty of obtaining needed parts for automobiles became acute he conceived the idea of establishing a place or shop for the manufacture of auto replacement parts. Soon afterwards he began to make auto parts for all kinds of cars as the situation demanded. In July, 1919, Mr. Beets opened his present place in the rear of 216 West Maple street, and has beeng doing a splendid business in his special line. His shop is equipped with two automatic screw machines, one Miller's Universal tool room lathe, drill presses, emery wheels, etc., all machinery being operated by electric power. Seven men are employed in this flourishing concern, two of whom are constantly on the road. So great is the volume of business done by this concern that at the present time, Mr. Beets is 60 days behind with his orders for parts. He receives orders from all parts of the country and from far off points in New York and California. He has recently been receiving inquiries from interested



parties in France and England. Mr. Beets can furnish repair parts for almost any make of automobile and always assists a patron in getting parts which he, himself, can not furnish direct from his store.

Frank Beets was married in Nov., 1916, to Miss Esther Arnold, of Kansas City, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Beets have one son, Frank Arnold. The Beets family reside at 210 West College street.

**Littleton Thompson Dryden**, a widely known and successful attorney of Independence, Mo., is a native of Missouri. He was born in Lincoln County, Aug. 14, 1867, a son of William J. and Tymandra V. (Thompson) Dryden. William J. Dryden is also a native of Lincoln County, born Dec. 30, 1842. His father, Littleton Dryden, was a native of Maryland, and settled in Missouri about 1840 and spent the remainder of his life there. His wife bore the maiden name of Eleanor Johnson. They both died within two days and their remains are buried at Asbury Chapel, Lincoln County.

William J. Dryden is now living retired at Independence, Mo. His chief occupation was farming, although he was engaged in the mercantile business for a time at Troy, Mo. His wife died in 1905 and her remains are interred at Asbury Chapel, Lincoln County.

Littleton Thompson Dryden received his education in the public schools of Lincoln County, Mo., and Central College at Fayette, Mo. He then entered Hastings Law School at San Francisco, Cal., where he pursued his legal studies until 1892. After being admitted to the bar, he located at Independence in 1893 and for the past 26 years he has been actively engaged in the practice of law, and is recognized as one of the able lawyers of western Missouri.

Mr. Dryden is a Democrat and had been an active factor in his party in this section of the state for a number of years. In 1905, he was elected a member of the Legislature to represent the First District of Jackson County. Although he served but one term in the Legislature, he was recognized as one of its influential and capable members. It was through his efforts that the Independence division of the Circuit Court was established here.

In 1894, Mr. Dryden was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Westman, of Independence. She died a few years later, leaving one son, Theodore L. Dryden, who married Miss Mabel Linsen, of Independence, and they reside on the home farm. There was also born to this marriage a daughter, Caroline, who died in infancy. Mr. Dryden's second marriage was with Miss Mary B. Self, of Independence. She was a daughter of



L. T. DRYDEN.





David and Louisa Self, both now deceased. They were very early settlers in Jackson County and at one time owned the land where Forest Hill cemetery is now located and on that place Mrs. Dryden was reared to young womanhood. She died May 1, 1919, and her remains rest in Forest Hill cemetery, which was once the scene of her childhood days. To Mr. Dryden's second marriage were born two children: William Johnson and David Litleton.

Mr. Dryden resides at 310 South Osage street, Independence, and also has a summer residence on his farm, three miles southeast of Independence.

Dr. Minnie O. (Burks) McGraw, osteopath, Independence, Mo., is a native of Benton County, Mo. and is a daughter of Dr. E. L. and Maggie (Clemmons) Burks. Her father was born in Benton County in 1851, practiced medicine for many years and now resides at Ada, Okla. Her mother was born in 1869 in Tennessee. Dr. and Mrs. Burks have two children: Everett Burks and Mrs. Minnie O. McGraw of this review.

Educated in the public schools of Denison, Texas, and in Oklahoma, Dr. M. O. McGraw studied the science of osteopathy in the Central College of Osteopathy in Kansas City, graduating therefrom in the class of 1914. She immediately came to Independence and opened offices in this city. During the past six years, Dr. McGraw has built up a splendid practice in this vicinity and has attained a well earned reputation as a specialist in the diseases of women and children. Many patients come to her offices from nearby cities for treatment. Dr. McGraw emphasizes the importance of and insists that her patients observe carefully the rules of health, its undeniable importance and the necessity of exercise and physical culture while combatting diseases of the body. This advice, given to her patients, combined with her treatments, has resulted in building up the health of many who have availed themselves of her skill as an osteopath.

March 27, 1897, at Paul's Valley, Okla., Minnie O. Burks and Sterling P. McGraw were united in marriage. Sterling P. McGraw was born Nov. 20, 1862 in Washington County, Ark., and is a son of John and Martha (Mosely) McGraw, the former of whom was a soldier in the Confederate army during the Civil War. The McGraws migrated from South Carolina to Arkansas in the early days. To Sterling P. and Dr. Minnie O. McGraw have been born four children: Gladys, wife of Kyle Bales, Kansas City, Mo.; Geneva, Pauline and Fay, at home. The McGraw family reside at 309 South Pleasant street.

**W. K. Yankee.**—The real estate and insurance firm of Noel and Yankee, offices at 127 West Lexington street, on the south side of the square, Independence, Mo., is a progressive and enterprising concern which transacts a large volume of business. W. K. Yankee, senior member of this firm, is descended from Missouri pioneer ancestry and is a successful business man of Jackson County. He was born on a farm near Pleasant Hill, Mo., June 1, 1865, and is a son of Wesley Yankee.

Wesley Yankee was born in Kentucky, April 22, 1822, and was a son of Samuel Yankee, a native of Virginia, who first settled in Kentucky, and in 1836, he migrated to Missouri and settled in Pettis County. In 1837, he settled two miles east of Lone Jack, in Jackson County. The old homestead of the Yankees is owned by Mrs. Orlena Yankee, widow of David Yankee, a brother of Wesley Yankee. Samuel Yankee entered several hundred acres of land near Lone Jack and died on his farm in 1879. His remains were interred on the place.

Wesley Yankee married Sarah Franklin, who was born in North Carolina in 1830, a daughter of Taliaferro and Ann (Easley) Franklin, who settled on a farm two and a half miles south of Lone Jack in 1836. Mrs. Sarah Yankee died in 1908 and is buried at Lone Jack. Taliaferro Franklin died in California in 1886. He was the first to lay a board floor in a cabin in the Lone Jack neighborhood, laying it in the cabin of John Snow. Heretofore the settlers had been content with a flooring of puncheon or hard packed earth in their homes, owing to the labor of sawing or hewing boards by hand. With the assistance of a negro slave, he whipsawed the boards, fastened them to the sills of the cabin with wooden pegs and then planed them smooth. This old cabin is still standing and is owned by Mrs. Julia Shawhan.

The children of Wesley and Sarah Yankee are as follow: Frank Yankee, a farmer, Lone Jack, Mo.; Mrs. Fannie Thompson, four miles southeast of Lone Jack; Mrs. Anna Smith, Cooper County, Mo.; Mrs. A. F. Houston, Strasburg, Mo.; J. B. Yankee, cashier of the Bank of Lone Jack, Mo.; W. K. Yankee of this review; and Mrs. Emma Hunt, Lone Jack. By a former marriage, Wesley Yankee had children as follow: J. A., deceased; Samuel, deceased; Mrs. Amelia McGlattey, deceased; Mrs. Eliza Maxwell, now making her home with William Hunt, a son of Noah Hunt, a pioneer of Lone Jack; and Joel died at the age of 23 years.

After attending the public schools of the county, W. K. Yankee followed farming for several years. From 1895 to 1897 he served as deputy county clerk. After serving in this office he resumed the pursuit of farm-



ing until 1907. He then entered the mercantile business, and was later engaged in the lumber business for seven years. In October, 1917, he removed to Independence and has since been engaged in the real estate, loan and insurance business.

Mr. Yankee was married in 1887 to Mary Graham of Lone Jack. She died in 1893, leaving two sons, twins: Herbert, at home; and Harry, who married Olive Kenton and lives in Kansas City. Mr. Yankee was again married in April, 1896, to Harriet Bowler, a daughter of J. O. F. and Elizabeth Bowler, both of whom are deceased. Mrs. Yankee's parents came from Illinois to Lees Summit in 1869.

In November, 1917, Mr. Yankee was appointed clerk of the Board of Election Commissioners, for the territory including Independence and Jackson County, outside of Kansas City. He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and is past master of the order and is a member of Independence Chapter.

B. W. McCormick, senior member of the real estate firm of B. W. McCormick and Son, which has been doing business in Independence for the past 18 years, is a native of Ohio. He was born in Washington County, March 6, 1850, and is a son of William and Isabella (Wilson) McCormick, both natives of Belmont County, Ohio. The father died in Van Wert County, Ohio, in 1854. His widow died in Fulton County, Ark., in 1907. She had married Wilson B. Farra after the death of her first husband. The children born to William and Isabella McCormick are: B. W., of this review; and John, of Akron, Ohio.

B. W. McCormick was educated in the schools of Belmont County, Ohio, and followed farming for some time, later mining coal in his native state. In 1877, he moved to Iowa and was employed in the coal mines of that state for a few years, following which he located in Howell County, Mo., where he farmed for five years. Mr. McCormick came to Jackson County in 1884 and then went to Ray County where he remained for one year and has since made his home in and around Independence. For several years he followed the business of hay dealer and for the past 18 years he has been successfully engaged in the real estate, loans and exchange business with offices at 315 West Lexington street. McCormick and Son now buy and sell all kinds of real estate, farms and city property and business chances, and make a specialty of suburban properties.

Mr. McCormick was married Jan. 12, 1870 to Amanda Davis of Belmont County, Ohio, a daughter of James and Melvina (Brannigan) Davis. Their children are: Ellis, a coal miner, Melcher, Iowa; George, also en-



gaged in coal mining at Richmond, Mo.; Joseph W., a well driller, Englewood, Mo.; Charles E., an engineer, Kansas City, Mo.; Jesse L., in partnership with his father; May E., wife of Alpha Ballinger, Kansas City, Mo. The third child born was a daughter, Emma, who became the wife of Thomas Graham and died at the age of 26 years. Mr. and Mrs. McCormick have ten grandchildren and two great grandchildren. They reside on Appleton avenue, Englewood.

J. L. McCormick, junior member of the firm, was born in Howell County, Mo., April 14, 1888, and was educated in the public and high schools of Independence. He married Martha Tweedell of Holliday, Kans., a daughter of James and Martha Tweedell, the former of whom died in 1908 and the latter lives at Holliday. J. L. and Martha McCormick have three children: B. W., Helen Jane, and Gladys Lee, who died at the age of seven years in 1917. James and Martha Tweedell were parents of eight children: James T., Holliday, Kans.; Mrs. Belle Gillespie, Morse, Kans.; Mrs. Mary Best, Higgins, Texas; Mrs. Tillie Greening, Holliday, Kans.; Mrs. Kate Chain, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Hattie Hall, Merriam, Kans.; Mrs. Martha McCormick.

"Bud" Tweedell, the sixth child, was drowned at Holliday, Kans., in July, 1908. J. L. McCormick and wife reside at 442 S. River Boulevard.

For five years B. W. McCormick resided in the house in Jackson County from which Frank James eloped with his bride.

**Oscar Mindrup**, a successful real estate and loan dealer, and progressive and enterprising citizen of Independence, Mo., is a native Missourian. He was born in St. Charles County, Jan. 25, 1861, a son of Judge Geo. H. and Catherine F. (Orf) Mindrup.

Judge Geo. H. Mindrup was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1821 and died in 1875. He emigrated from his native land to America in 1841 and settled in St. Charles County, improved a farm in that county, reared his family there and spent the latter part of his days in Augusta, Mo. He became prominent in the county and was a leader, serving a term as judge of the western district of St. Charles County in the County Court. Mrs. Catherine Mindrup died at the age of 88 years, in the family home. She was born in Weimar Essenhauer, Saxony, Germany, and accompanied her parents to America, they also settling in St. Charles County. The Mindrup children are: Hulda Mindrup, St. Charles County, and Oscar Mindrup, of this review; Rosina, wife of Henry Freymouth, St. Charles County; and Frances, wife of W. H. Wright, Wellington, Mo.

Oscar Mindrup resided in St. Charles County until he became of age and then located in Lafayette County where he remained for 13 years engaged in merchandising, banking, and milling. In 1896 he came to Independence and has since identified himself, heart and soul, with the progressive and pushing element of his adopted city. He spent two years in the grocery business in this city and then opened his thriving real estate and loan business which he has conducted at his present location, 210 North Liberty street.

Mr. Mindrup was married Oct. 10, 1904 to Etta Lee Buchanan of Independence, a daughter of Judge J. F. Buchanan. One daughter has blessed this marriage, Ellen Frances Mindrup.

Mr. Mindrup is a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 76, Independence, and is a member of the Independence Christian church. From 1901 to 1903 he served as a member of the city council and was twice elected president of the Independence Commercial Club. He has been a steady and consistent booster for a greater Independence and is one of the real "live wires" of the city. He has been an advocate and a faithful worker for municipal improvements at all times and has done everything in his power to further the best interests of his home city.

W. F. Ramsey, who is successfully engaged in the insurance and loan business at Independence, was born in Independence, June 19, 1876. He is a son of Wesley W. and Mahala J. (Veatch) Ramsey, both natives of Bedford County, Pa. Wesley W. Ramsey was born in 1826 and died in 1889. His wife was born in 1830 and died in 1893, and their remains are buried in Woodland cemetery. Wesley W. Ramsey learned the blacksmith trade when a youth and worked at it in early life in Pennsylvania. After coming to Independence, Mo., however, he did not follow his trade, but later engaged in the dray business. He was regarded as a wealthy man at one time, but owing to financial reverses during the boom days, he lost most of his fortune.

W. F. Ramsey was one of six children born of his parents, the others being as follows: Marietta, who is now the widow of Arthur W. Lockwood, Bedford, Pa.; Laura B., married Jacob Fletcher, who was a blacksmith at Independence, and is now deceased; Jennie A., married M. A. DeVather, of Kansas City; J. Watson, who is engaged in the farm loan business at Kansas City, Mo.; Jessie V., married Melvin E. Carier, Los Angeles, Calif.

W. F. Ramsey was educated in the public schools, and was graduated from the Independence High School in the class of 1896. He immediately



engaged in the insurance business in Independence in partnership with Walter Rider. This arrangement continued until 1913, when the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Ramsey went on the road for five years. In 1918 he engaged in the insurance and loan business at Independence, and is rapidly building up a large and profitable business. His office is located in the Owens building.

Mr. Ramsey was united in marriage June 8, 1900, with Miss Mertie M. Hills of Independence, Mo. She is a daughter of Edwin E. and Almira (Yale) Hills, residents of Independence. To Mr. and Mrs. Ramsey have been born two children, Lucille Marie and Edwin Wesley.

Mr. Ramsey is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America. He is a member of the Baptist church, of which he is one of the trustees. He is also secretary of the Sunday school.

It is worthy of note in this connection that Alexander Ramsey, an uncle of W. F. Ramsey, and now a resident of Independence, settled here in 1866. He was a close friend and associate of the late Gov. John P. St. John, former governor of Kansas. These two gentlemen met in Illinois several years prior to the Civil War and formed a very close friendship. They made the trip together across the plains to the gold fields of California, about 1854. Later they served as comrades in the Union army during the Civil War. After the war, they came to Independence together, and Mr. St. John laid out three additions to the city of Independence. Later he went to Kansas and became twice governor of that state and while he held that position, he appointed Alexander Ramsey to a responsible position in the Kansas State Penitentiary at Lansing, Kan.

**Samuel Rudhall Rice**, dealer in automobile tires and accessories, 210 North Main street, Independence, Mo., is a native of Jackson County and a member of one of the oldest pioneer families of this section of Missouri. He was born on a farm in the Six Mile country, Fort Osage township, March 1, 1875. His parents are Michael Brown and Emma (Chiles) Rice, the former of whom was born in the same neighborhood in 1853. Emma (Chiles) Rice, his mother, was born in the Chiles Valley, Calif., and died near Sherman, Texas, in 1879.

Michael Brown Rice is a son of Michael Rice, a native of England and who was a Jackson County pioneer. He operated the Old Blue Mills, operated by water wheel power during the pioneer days. This was probably the first grist and flour mill built in the county. Michael Rice died in this county while operating his mill. He became an extensive land owner,



entering land in the days when it was practically all owned by the government. After his marriage, Michael Brown Rice settled on his farm near Blue Mills and developed it. This farm is located in Blue township, not far from the Missouri River. For the past 18 years he has been living at Baird, Wash. By his first marriage, with Emma Chiles, he was father of three children: Samuel R., of this review; William Peace Rice, Meeteetse, Wy.; George died in infancy. By a second marriage, with Miss Hortense Gallagher, he has five children; Mrs. Virginia Bechtol, Montana; Mary; Paul, Montana; Charles, Baird, Wash.; and Carrie, at home.

Samuel R. Rice spent one year in the State Normal School at Warrensburg, Mo., after attending the public schools. He then purchased the Fowler and Horan general store at Atherton, in partnership with R. L. Twyman. Later, George Peace purchased Twyman's interest and he also sold out to Mortimer Sullivan. Mr. Rice was engaged in business at Atherton for 11 years and then came to Independence in 1902. He followed farming until June, 1919, when he opened his present business, and is building up a profitable trade.

Mr. Rice was married Nov. 11, 1903, to Minnie R. Carpenter, of Independence, who was born near Leeds, Mo. She is a daughter of Luther and Magdalena Carpenter, both deceased. James C. Carpenter, her grandfather, was one of the pioneers of Jackson County. Her grandmother, Magdalena Ragan, widow of Reuben Johnson, came to this county in 1837, and her father was one of the ten men who laid out the town site of Kansas City. Mrs. Minnie R. Rice died Jan. 3, 1919, leaving five children: Helen M., Mary L., Mildred, Michael and Alonzo. Mr. Rice resides at 1406 Van-Horn Road. He has been affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons for the past 18 years.

**W. H. Montgomery**, deputy sheriff of Jackson County, was born on a farm in Sniabar township, March 29, 1862. He is a son of Lee and Elizabeth (Holloway) Montgomery, both of whom are deceased.

Lee Montgomery was born near Louisville, Ky., in 1805 and came to Missouri about 1840, locating on a farm near Blue Springs, where he followed farming and stock raising until his death in 1891. He owned a good farm of 160 acres and was considered as one of the industrious and substantial citizens of the Blue Springs neighborhood. His wife, Elizabeth, died in 1900. They were the parents of the following children: Mrs. Sophia Washington Matthews, deceased; Mrs. Amanda Gillespie, matron at the County Home; Mrs. Ophelia Vandyke, near Buckner, Mo.; Mrs. Alice Binger, Independence, Mo.; J. L., Blue Springs, Mo.; W. H., subject of this

sketch; and C. C., Blue Springs. By a former marriage with a Miss Crump, Lee Montgomery had two daughters: Mrs. Nannie Clayton, Independence; and Mrs. Janie Smith, Blue Springs, Mo.

W. H. Montgomery was reared on his father's farm and attended the Round Grove school. He has always followed farming and is owner of a well improved place of 105 acres in Sniabar township, near the Lobb church. This place has been his home since 1897. For four years Mr. Montgomery was deputy marshal under Joel B. Mayes and then served for two years as deputy sheriff under Edward Winstanley. After sheriff Winstanley's death, his son Ed finished the unexpired term and Mr. Montgomery then served two years as chief deputy sheriff under sheriff Ed Winstanley. For the past three years he has filled the post of deputy under sheriff Gentry.

Mr. Montgomery was married on Dec. 24, 1884 to Miss Kate Clark of Sniabar township, a daughter of David and Amanda (Woodruff) Clark, both deceased. Two daughters were born of this marriage: Eva, wife of A. E. White, of Blue Springs, who is mother of three children, William K., Cecil Mildred White, and Elsie, deceased.

Mr. Montgomery is a popular and efficient county official who has many warm and steadfast friends throughout Jackson County. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, of Blue Springs.

Charles W. Brady, postmaster, Independence, Mo., was born July 22, 1865. He is a son of John and Hester (Farrell) Brady. Both parents of C. W. Brady were born in Ireland and were married in Liberty, Mo. John Brady emigrated from his native country to America when a youth and located at Liberty, Mo., where he was engaged in the buying and selling of live stock until his removal to Independence in 1850. In 1861 he was elected city marshal of Independence and served until 1863. Soon thereafter he purchased a farm in Blue township, one mile east of Independence and followed farming and stock raising until his death Jan. 4, 1881. Mrs. Brady died in 1901. The children born to John and Hester Brady are as follow: Mrs. T. P. Fraher, Independence, Mo.; Charles W., subject of this sketch; and John Brady, assistant postmaster, Independence, Mo.

Charles W. Brady was educated in the public schools of Independence and was reared on his father's farm. In 1886 he was appointed assistant postmaster of Independence under the late William Grosebeck and served in this position for eight years. He was appointed postmaster in 1894 under President Cleveland's second administration, and served for four



C. W. BRADY.





years. At the expiration of this term he engaged in the retail grocery business in partnership with Jack O'Brien, who later became county treasurer. This partnership was continued for eight years and then Mr. Brady purchased his partner's interest and continued the business until June, 1913. He was then appointed postmaster of Independence by President Wilson and was reappointed to the position in 1918.

Mr. Brady was married Oct. 10, 1895 to Miss Nellie O'Dowd of Kansas City, Mo., a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward O'Dowd of that city, both of whom are deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Brady have eight children: Charles, Jr., a graduate of the Kansas City Law School, and now in the employ of the City Central Bank of Kansas City; William I., a cadet in the West Point Military Academy; Gladys, at home; Joseph, in the employ of the Central Coal and Coke Company; Frank, Helen, Thomas and Agnes at home. Charles Brady, Jr. served in the United States navy for one year during the World War and was in training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station.

Mr. Brady is an excellent public official who has the best interests of the patrons of the Independence post office at heart. The best of service is afforded the people of Independence and vicinity and he has gathered around him a splendid corps of assistants. He is a member of the Brotherhood Protective Order of Elks, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Loyal Order of Moose lodges.

**Todd M. George**, treasurer of Jackson County, and a leading citizen of Lees Summit, Mo., was born in Woodford County, Kentucky, Feb. 26, 1879, a son of the late Richard B. George, lawyer, banker and farmer, of Lees Summit.

Richard B. George was born in Versailles, Woodford County, Ky., in 1831 and died June 10, 1895. He was born on the site of the present Masonic Temple in that city. Mr. George studied law and was admitted to the bar in his home county in Kentucky, entered politics and was elected sheriff of Woodford County, in 1861, and served until Sept., 1862, when he resigned his office to enlist in the Confederate army. He saw much active service in the Civil War under General Buford and served for three years or until the close of the war. He then resumed his law practice and in April, 1875, he was appointed Master Commissioner of Woodford County, serving until Feb., 1883, at which time he resigned and came to Lees Summit. He remained at Lees Summit and the Bank of Lees Summit until 1886 and then returned to Versailles. In 1889 he again came to Lees Sum-

mit and made Jackson County his permanent home for the remainder of his life. Mr. George purchased the Powell Banking Company of Lees Summit and incorporated the Bank of Lees Summit, being connected with this banking concern for a number of years. He also purchased a farm of 554 acres, six miles east of Lees Summit, and after his retirement from the practice of law he made this farm his home until his death in 1895. He was married on May 30, 1860 to Martha Ann Todd, at Versailles, Ky. She was born in Frankfort, on the lot where the new state capitol building now stands, in 1840, and died at Lees Summit, Mo., Oct. 1, 1913. Richard B. and Martha (Todd) George were parents of the following children: Mrs. Mary B. James, died March 11, 1901 at Lees Summit; William B. George, Lees Summit; Henry B. died at the age of 12 years; Mrs. Bettie B. Haynes, died Oct. 4, 1916; Mrs. Annie N. Gibbons, Umatilla, Fla.; David T., Lees Summit, Mo.; Mrs. Charles W. Latimer, Independence, Mo.; Todd M., subject of this review; Frank K., Lees Summit; Mrs. Patsy Barron, Kansas City, Mo.

Leaving home when 15 years old, Todd M. George has made his own way. He worked and paid his way through high school at Lees Summit, following which he was in the employ of the Green-Mills Commission Co. at the stock yards for three years. He then spent one year on a ranch in Texas. Returning home he established a real estate and fire insurance business at Lees Summit and was successfully engaged in this business until his election to the office of county treasurer of Jackson County in 1916. Mr. George is now serving his third year in this important office and is giving satisfaction to the people of the county by his capable administration of the affairs of the office.

Mr. George was married March 1, 1911 to Miss Florie Andrews, of Boonville, Mo. She is a daughter of the late Colonel Charles E. and Jennie E. (Dobyns) Andrews, of Boonville, and a niece of former Congressman John T. Heard of Sedalia. On her maternal side she is descended from Colonial and Revolutionary stock, her mother being a member of an old and prominent southern family. Her grandfather, David E. Andrews, was the first mayor of Boonville, and was one of the pioneer merchants of that city, owning much real estate in Boonville. Her father, Col. Chas. E. Andrews, died at Boonville, Nov. 24, 1917.

Three children have been born to Todd M. and Florie George, as follows: Todd M., Jr., Hardage, Va. and Florie Ann George.

Mr. George is a member of the Knights of Pythias of Lees Summit and belongs to the Presbyterian church of his home city. He has taken an



active interest in the Boy Scout movement and is much interested in local history. His interest in these affairs, leading him to organize the Lees Summit Historical Society and with the aid of the Boy Scouts of that city, he has managed to obtain the portraits of many of the old settlers of Prairie township. The city Hall of Lees Summit is the temporary headquarters of the Historical Society and also the Boy Scout headquarters.

**Fred Schulenberg**, Union veteran, living retired in Independence, Mo., was born June 8, 1841, in Hanover, Germany. He is a son of John and Mary (Donenbarch) Schulenberg, who emigrated to America in 1855, crossing the Atlantic on board a sailing vessel which required 11 weeks to make the voyage to New Orleans. The first winter in this country was spent in St. Louis and in the following spring the family came to Independence by boat up the Missouri River, and established a home on Lexington street. John Schulenberg worked at cutting wood, later securing a team and hauled the wood to market. For a number of years he did general teaming, until his death in 1876. Mrs. Schulenberg died in 1891. They were parents of the following children: Henry, Independence; Mrs. Dorothy Reick, deceased; Fred, subject of this sketch; John, living near Independence; William, living near Independence; and Louis died at the age of 20 years.

Fred Schulenberg enlisted in the Union army in 1862 and was in the service for six months. He was taken prisoner by the Confederates at Independence and was paroled by his captors. The following spring he went to Leavenworth, Kan. and made a trip across the plains, driving six yokes of oxen to Fort Laramie. On the return trip the train was attacked by Indians, but none of the white men were killed. After his return he joined Captain Smith's company and was stationed at Lone Jack, after the battle had been fought at that place, and was stationed at Pleasant Hill, Pink Hill and Warrensburg. After the close of the war he did teaming for Jack Little for 35 years. He helped to haul the material for the abutments of the bridge across the Blue on the Independence and Kansas City road. For the past ten years Mr. Schulenberg has been living practically retired at his pleasant home at 422 East Lexington street.

Mr. Schulenberg was married Oct. 16, 1868 to Miss Catherine Albright, of Independence, a daughter of Abraham and Catherine (Hartell) Albright, both of whom are deceased. Mrs. Schulenberg was born in 1848 and accompanied her mother from St. Louis in 1851. Mr. and Mrs. Schulenberg have children as follow: Mary Elizabeth, wife of John Lowe, Osawatomie, Kan.; Fannie Louise, wife of John Gordon, Independence, Mo.; Catherine, wife of James O'Donnell, Kansas City, Kan.; Walter H., and John Edward.

in the automobile and tire business in Independence. The grandchildren of this fine old couple are as follow: Frederick Lowe, who served for two years in France with the engineers corps; Arthur, now in California working at ship building, and Leona Lowe, Fannie Gordon, Hazel O'Donnell, Gladys, Margaret and Leota O'Donnell, twins; Edward and Fred Schulenberg. They have one great grandchild, John Douglas Peterman, a son of Harry and Leona Peterman, of Kansas City.

Walter E. Schulenberg was educated in the public and high schools of Independence. For 11 years he was rural mail carrier on Rural Route No. 2, Independence. During that time he became interested in used automobiles and gradually built up a business in that line. He opened his present business in June, 1918, and was joined by his brother, Edward J., in 1919. Schulenberg Brothers handle several makes of automobile tires and auto accessories and do general tire repair work at their shop on 215 West Maple avenue. He was married Oct. 11, 1907 to Mary Ann Sermon, of Independence, a daughter of George and Della Sermon, who live at 904 Van Horn street, Independence. He is a member of the Masons.

Edward J. Schulenberg, when 17 years of age began to learn the blacksmith trade with J. A. McCurdy. He afterwards purchased the blacksmith shop and operated it for four years. In January, 1919, he became associated with his brother in the tire business. He was married Dec. 23, 1913 to Margaret Barlow, who died Dec. 12, 1918. Two children were born to this marriage: Edward and Frederick.

**Johnson and Sons**, monument manufacturers, dealers in mausoleums, and cemetery work, Independence, Mo. is composed of P. T. Johnson and his three sons, Roy, Ray and Rolly Johnson.

P. T. Johnson, the senior member of the firm, was born in Marshall County, Ky., in 1859, and is a son of W. H. Johnson of Marshall County, Ky. He developed the farm upon which P. T. Johnson was born and reared, within six miles of Benton, Ky., and died on his place in 1911 at the age of 88 years. P. T. Johnson came to Kansas City, Mo. in 1879 and for five years he was engaged in the feed business. He then established a monument business at Liberty, Mo. and conducted it for about six years. Returning to Kansas City, he followed the same business in that city until 1899. He then came to Independence and purchased his present business of J. E. Lewis. In 1914, his three sons, Roy, Ray and Rolly Johnson were taken into partnership and an extensive business covering Jackson, Cass, Lafayette and Clay counties, Mo., and Wyandotte County, Kans. has been built up. Four salesmen are in the employ of this firm.



P. T. Johnson was married in 1888 to Anna M. Branton, of Blue Springs, Mo. She is a daughter of Moses and Sarah (Stanley) Branton, the latter of whom is deceased and the former makes his home with his daughter. Moses Branton served under Stonewall Jackson in the Civil War and was captured at Gettysburg. After the close of the war he came to Jackson County.

The children born to P. T. and Anna M. Johnson are Roy, Ray, Ruby and Rolly Johnson.

Roy Johnson was born Dec. 12, 1889. He was educated in Independence High School and Kansas University, and William Jewell College, graduating therefrom in the class of 1913. He married Marguerite E. Lowe, Sept. 22, 1915. She is a daughter of J. B. and Carrie Lowe.

Ray Johnson was born in 1891 and was educated in the Independence High School. He was married to Maud Yankee, a daughter of Samuel Yankee, and has one daughter, Frances.

P. T. Johnson and his sons are all members of the Woodmen of the World and the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias. All are members of the Baptist church of which Miss Ruby Johnson is the organist.

**Justus DeCourcey**, proprietor of the Coal and Mercantile Company, 204 West Maple street, Independence, Mo., was born in Logan County, Ky., April 9, 1863. He is a son of Anderson and Matilda (Whitlow) DeCourcey, the former of whom was a native of Kentucky and the latter of Virginia.

Anderson DeCourcey was born in Logan County, Ky., in 1810, and lived all of his days in the county of his nativity, dying there Oct. 12, 1888. Mrs. Matilda DeCourcey was born in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, in 1819 and died in Kentucky, in 1899. The children of Anderson and Matilda DeCourcey are as follow: Nannie C., wife of John Davenport, Central City, Ky.; Elizabeth, wife of James Davenport, died at Russellville, Ky.; Fannie, wife of James Shumwell, Elkton, Ky.; Ellen, wife of William Goodrum, died near Bowling Green, Ky., in 1904; Philip Taylor DeCourcey, died at Poplar Bluffs, in 1904; Susan K., wife of John Hilton, Elkton, Ky.; Mittie C., wife of J. R. Boley died in Florida in 1916; Dual Anderson, died in Washington, in 1916; Mollie L., wife of P. P. Woody, Independence Mo.; Justus DeCourcey, of this review.

Anderson DeCourcey was a son of J. DeCourcey, who was born in Charleston, S. C., and settled in Kentucky when much of the state was a wilderness. He was one of the pioneers of Kentucky and located his



family there when his nearest neighbor was twenty miles distant. The DeCourceys are of French descent.

Justus DeCourcey attended the public schools of his native state and studied for one term at the Louisburg High School. For 23 years he was engaged in farming in Kentucky and spent one year at Sharon Grove, Ky., in the mercantile business. He came to Jackson County in May, 1889, and soon after settling in Independence he opened a coal and grain business. He was associated with Messrs. Woodson and Lewis for five years in the coal and grain business, when he sold out his interest in the business to W. T. Frazier and opened up his present store. Mr. DeCourcey handles coal, grain, farm and garden seeds and feeds and has an excellent and profitable trade.

Mr. DeCourcey was married in July, 1903 to Mrs. Emma Lowdell of Independence, a native of Mississippi, who was reared near Manhattan, Kan. By a former marriage she has one daughter, Miss Cordelia Lowdell, who graduated from the Christian Hospital, in June, 1919, as a trained nurse, and is now nursing in this hospital in Kansas City.

Mr. DeCourcey has served one term as a member of the Independence city council. He is affiliated with Independence Camp Number 22, Woodmen of the World.

Mr. and Mrs. DeCourcey reside at Norwood, just outside of the city limits, where they have a beautiful stone residence, erected in 1909, containing nine rooms and located in a fine setting of trees and lawn, which forms an attractive part of a two acre plot on which the residence stands.

**Ray Henry Schulenberg**, member of the grocery firm of Curran, Schulenberg and Hausam, Independence, Mo., is a native of Jackson County. He was born July 4, 1891 and is a son of William and Mary (Swiffle) Schulenberg, the former of whom was born in Germany and emigrated from his native land to America in 1849, first settled in Kansas City and then came to Independence, locating on a farm in this vicinity. Mr. Schulenberg followed farming for several years in this county and is now making his home with his daughter, Mrs. Nellie Liddle, on the Lees Summit and Nelson Road. Mrs. Schulenberg is deceased. The children of the family are: Louis, Willie and Clarence on Kentucky avenue in Blue township; Armeda, wife of Arthur L. Curran; Dorá, wife of C. O. Davis; Ray Henry, of this review; Leonard, residing on the Lees Summit Road; Nellie, wife of W. M. Liddle.

R. H. Schulenberg received his schooling in White Oak School in Blue township. From his boyhood days he has followed the grocery business

and became associated with his present firm in May, 1918. He was married Sept. 30, 1912 to Lou Belle Smith, a daughter of H. H. and Sarah (Harding) Smith, both of whom reside in Atherton, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Schulenberg have two children: Lee Roy and Chester Schulenberg.

Mr. Schulenberg is one of the live young business men of Independence, and the firm with which he is actively associated is a leading one in Independence. He is a member of the Loyal Order of Moose.

Fred S. Clark, proprietor of the Enterprise Cleaning and Dyeing Shop, on West Lexington street, Independence, Mo., was born in Champaign County, Illinois, Dec. 15, 1876. His parents were John M. and Sarah (Casey) Clark, the former of whom is deceased.

John M. Clark was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and learned the trade of carpenter in his youth. He located at Champaign, in Champaign county, Illinois, and followed his trade and was a contractor and builder for many years, and later moved to Decatur, Moran County, Illinois. He died Jan. 18, 1914, aged 76 years. Mrs. Sarah Clark was born Oct. 3, 1838, and resides at Decatur, Ill. Their children are as follow: Lon P. Clark, Webster Grove, Mo.; Nellie Clark, Decatur, Ill.; Will T. Clark, Minneapolis, Minn.; Bert A. Clark, Mobridge, S. D.; Emma, wife of George Ford, Illiopolis, Ill.; Fred S. Clark, of this sketch. All of the foregoing children held a family reunion at the homestead in Decatur, Ill., Oct. 3, 1919.

After leaving high school in Decatur, Fred S. Clark was messenger boy for the Wabash Railway Company for three years, earning \$25 per month. He was then employed in the gas department of the Decatur Gas and Electric Company for some time. Mr. Clark came to Jackson County and entered the employ of the Kansas City Gas Company, and was in the employ of this concern for nine years. In 1912 he opened up his present shop, under the name of the Enterprise Cleaners and Dyers, and has built up an excellent business.

Mr. Clark was married in February, 1899, to Pearl E. Abrams, of Decatur, Ill., a daughter of Dr. D. D. and Ellen C. (Jamieson) Abrams, the former of whom died April 26, 1918, and latter resides at 206 South Osage street. The children born to Fred S. and Pearl E. Clark are: Paul Abrams Clark, senior in high school; Harry Truman Clark, senior in Northwest Normal College, Alva, Okla.

Mr. Clark has filled the post of deputy in the office of the county collector. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, the Loyal Order of Moose, and the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.



**Thomas W. Records**, living retired at 417 West Maple street, Independence, former merchant and banker of Blue Springs, was born in Sussex County, Del., May 13, 1841. He is a son of William D. and Eunice J. (Phillips) Records, both natives of Delaware.

William D. Records was a son of William Records, also a native of Sussex County, Del. Eunice J. (Phillips) Records was a daughter of Spencer Phillips, member of an old Sussex County family. Both of the parents of Thomas W. Records died in their native county, his father dying in June, 1897, and his mother Dec. 30, 1853. Their children were: Mary Spicer, Willard S., George W., John B., Lavinia, William B., Robert S. and Thomas W., all of whom are deceased except the subject of this sketch.

Thomas W. Records was educated in the public schools in his native county and the Academy at Laurel, Del. He left home and came west in 1865 and after remaining a year in Kansas City he located at Old Blue Springs and established the first general store in that locality in operation after the Civil War before the town was platted and prior to the advent to the railroad. His first store was a small affair in a room 16 x 24 feet. About this time, David Mock, an uncle of Mrs. Records was appointed postmaster of Blue Springs, but resigned not long afterwards and Thomas W. Records was appointed to fill the place. He conducted the post office in connection with his store and built up an extensive retail business and also dealt in country produce which he would gather among the farmers and haul to the Kansas City markets. In those days, eggs were packed in straw and placed in barrels and boxes with straw between them.

In 1875 Mr. Records traded his store for a part of the Morgan Walker farm near Blue Springs, famous in Jackson County history in connection with the exploits of Quantrell's band. He sold the farm in 1881 and again engaged in business in Blue Springs, becoming associated with M. V. Dillingham, and taking in as a partner in 1888, E. C. Ford, who is still connected with the store. The Blue Springs Mercantile Company was then incorporated with a capital of \$15,000. In 1883, Mr. Records with others purchased the E. B. Fields Bank at Blue Springs and incorporated the Bank of Blue Springs for \$16,000. Mr. Records was elected president of the bank and served until March, 1918, when he resigned. Several years prior to this he had sold his interest in the store. He removed to Independence in August, 1918.

Mr. Records was married April 16, 1868 to Stella Ellington of Platte County, Mo. Mrs. Stella Records was born Sept. 3, 1842 in Platte County





*Thos. W. Records.*



and died Jan. 1, 1919. She was a daughter of Pleasant W. and Armilda (Talbot) Ellington, pioneer settlers of Platte County, who were parents of three children: Mrs. Sophia Beshear, Camden Point, Mo.; Mrs. K. B. Cecil, East Leavenworth, Mo.; and Mrs. Stella Records.

The children born to Thomas W. and Stella Records are: William P., a daughter died in infancy, Aug. 7, 1871, and Thomas H. Records.

William P. Records is a traveling salesman living at Lawton, Okla. He was born April 17, 1869, and married Nellie Dillingham of Blue Springs, and has two children, Helen Estelle and Mary Malvina, the former of whom married Harry Mitchell, resides at Vinta, Okla., and has a daughter, Marcelle.

Thomas H. Records was born Jan. 17, 1878 and died Sept. 10, 1914. He was graduated from the State University at Columbia and specialized in journalism. He married Lavenia Bouchelle of Columbia, a graduate of Christian College. She died Jan. 14, 1903, leaving a daughter, Lavenia Bouchell, now a senior in William Chrisman High School, Independence. Thomas H. Record was married the second time to Bertha Carr of Walters, Okla., and two children were born of this marriage: Thomas Herbert, Jr., born Nov. 26, 1905 and Dorothy Estelle, born Oct. 1, 1908.

Mr. Records is a Democrat and he is a member of the Primitive Baptist church.

**Lewis Maupin**, operating a horse and mule market at 120 East Lexington street has for the past 23 years been dealing extensively in horses and mules in this section of Missouri. During the World War, Mr. Maupin did the most extensive business in buying and shipping of horses and mules of any dealer in this section outside of Kansas City. His whole life has been spent, practically, in the business.

Mr. Maupin was born at Richmond, Madison County, Ky., May 21, 1856. He is a son of Thomas Jefferson and Jennie (Lackey) Maupin, both natives of Kentucky, and who are mentioned prominently in the History of Madison County. Daniel Maupin, grandfather of Lewis Maupin, was a Virginian who became one of the early pioneers of Kentucky. The children of the Maupin family are: Dorcas, deceased; Mrs. Mattie Chorn, deceased; Mrs. Maggie Terrill, Richmond, Ind.; Mrs. Alice Albright, deceased; Lewis Maupin, subject of this sketch; Edna, deceased; Mrs. Mary Chorn, Fayette, Mo.; and Mrs. Susie Chorn, Fayette, Mo.

After receiving his education in his native state, Lewis Maupin engaged in the business of buying and selling of horses and mules. In 1897 he came to Independence and established his present flourishing business.



Mr. Maupin has built up a splendid reputation as an honest and dependable dealer throughout this section of Missouri and handles hundreds of animals yearly.

Mr. Maupin was married in 1880, in his native county, to Miss Rosa Dumm, who was also born and reared in Madison County, Ky. She died March 14, 1918, leaving two children, May, wife of Robert Knowles; and Claude, associated with his father in the business.

**E. P. Burton.**—The real estate firm of Burton and Corthell, with offices at 205 West Lexington street, Independence, is one of the leading real estate concerns of Jackson County. The firm does a general real estate, loan, insurance, bond and abstract business, and is noted for its stability and successful experience, covering 22 years in which it has existed. The business was first established in 1897 by E. P. Burton, and was incorporated in 1913, with Mr. E. P. Burton as president and Mr. E. E. Corthell as secretary and treasurer. The fine business enjoyed by this well established enterprise has been built up by careful, conscientious business methods and by thoroughness of attention to detail in the work done on behalf of clients. This firm is one of the most conservative financial institutions in Independence, and one of the most reliable—facts which are attested by the high prices of the stock in the company, which cannot be bought for \$700 per share, it having at the time of organization a par value of \$100 per share.

E. P. Burton was born March 2, 1876, on a farm in Jackson County, and is a member of one of the oldest of the Jackson County pioneer families. His father was Levi Burton, who was born in Saline County, Missouri, and came to Jackson County in 1866, locating on a farm northeast of Independence. He died in 1880. His wife was Bernica (Short) Burton, who was born in Edmondson County, Kentucky, in 1844, and accompanied her parents, James and Lucinda Short, to Jackson County in 1850. The Short family settled on a farm north of Independence. Mrs. Burton now resides four miles southeast of Independence.

The first home of James and Lucinda Short in this county was a two room log cabin, in which they resided for many years. The Shorts were Baptists and meetings were held in the Six Mile neighborhood. Baptizing was often done in the dead of winter, when ice covered the Blue, and it was necessary to chop a hole so that the ceremony could be performed according to rite. The cooking in the Short home was done in an old-fashioned fireplace; the bread was baked in an iron oven or kettle, which was placed in the glowing coals. Mrs. Burton, mother of E. P. Burton, still has in her

possession the old oven used in her pioneer home, and is ready and willing to donate the article to the County Historical Society whenever a place is provided for taking care of relics of this character.

The children born to Levi and Bernica Burton are as follow: James M. Burton, born June 6, 1869, lives in Blue township; E. P. Burton, of this review; Walter, died in 1916, at the age of 33 years; Robert, died in infancy; Harry Morris, a son of E. H. Morris, who was the first husband of Bernica Short.

James and Lucinda Short had children as follow: James M. Short, E. W. Short and Foster Short, all deceased; Mrs. Bernica Burton, and Mrs. Joseph Eaton, who died in Oregon.

E. P. Burton was educated in the Lees Summit public schools, and also attended business college in Kansas City. He began to make his own way when 12 years of age. For the past 22 years Mr. Burton has been engaged in the real estate and loan and insurance business as stated above.

Mr. Burton was married in 1916 to Katherine Pitcher; of Kansas City, Mo., a daughter of Gilbert and Mary Elizabeth Pitcher, both of whom are deceased. Thomas Pitcher, grandfather of Mrs. Burton, came to Jackson County in 1826. He married Nancy Parrish, who came also from Kentucky in 1825. Thomas Pitcher gave the site for the first public schools established in Jackson County, and the school house of his old district is still known as the Pitcher School. The Smarts and McGees, after whom streets were named in Kansas City, were relatives of the Pitchers.

Mr. and Mrs. Burton reside at 317 South Osage street, Independence. Mr. Burton is a member of the Baptist Church and Mrs. Burton is a member of the Christian Church of this city. He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and the Modern Woodmen of America.

**Alfred G. Hausam**, member of the grocery firm of Curran-Schulenberg and Hausam, Independence, Mo., was born in St. Charles, Mo., Feb. 20, 1867, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Boelner) Hausam.

The father was born in Germany, settled in St. Charles County upon immigrating to America, and in 1886, came to Kansas City. He followed his profession of engineer in this city and died in 1895, at the age of 72 years. Mrs. Mary Hausam was born Sept. 18, 1827, and resides in Kansas City, one of the oldest women of the county, having attained the great age of 92 years, and is still active. The children of the Hausam family are: Mrs. Lucille Miller, deceased; Julia Hausam, Kansas City; Mrs. Alvina Gottschammer, Kansas City; Jacob G. Hausam, Kansas City; Alfred G. Hausam, of this review.



Alfred G. Hausam received his education in the schools of St. Charles and St. Louis, where the family resided prior to coming to Kansas City. Since young manhood he has followed the grocery and meat business, and has charge of the meat market operated in connection with the store in which he is financially interested:

Mr. Hausam was married in 1897 to Emma P. Speck, a daughter of Martin and Susan (Mertischeimer) Speck, of Independence. Mrs. Hausam's father is a pioneer settler of Jackson County, coming here in the early forties, and now makes his home at 815 North Liberty street.

Three children have been born to Alfred G. and Emma P. Hausam, as follow: Alpha Marie, Roy Martin, and one child, Edward, who died in infancy.

**Carl Foster.**—On Aug. 1, 1918, the Foster Grocery Company began business on the west side of the square, succeeding E. B. Dooley. The Foster concern is operated on the "cash and carry" plan, which is rapidly finding favor with cash buyers in many cities of the country, inasmuch as the expense of delivery is eliminated and the cash buyer has the advantage of lower prices, which he would not obtain at a grocery where credit accounts are carried on the books. The cash buyer usually gets the wrong end of the deal where he trades at a place which extends credit to a large number of patrons who have their purchases delivered. He is assisting in paying for a delivery and credit system expense which is maintained for the accommodation of the other patrons. It would seem that most stores would find it a good plan to inaugurate a system of doing business where a cash purchaser would have the advantage of lower prices. Mr. Foster has gone the full length in this plan and sells only to cash purchasers who carry away their purchases. The large volume of trade enjoyed by the Foster establishment is ample evidence that the "cash and carry" store is meeting with popular favor.

Carl Foster, proprietor of the Foster Grocery Company, was born in Cass County, Missouri, Aug. 26, 1876. He is a son of Hamilton and Susan (Simms) Foster, the former of whom was a native of Ohio, and the latter a native of South Carolina. The Foster family resided in Cass County at the time of the beginning of the Civil War, and Hamilton Foster served with the Confederate forces. His family moved to Harrisonville and remained there until the war closed. Mr. Foster died in 1877, in Cass County. Mrs. Foster died in Benton County, Missouri, in 1894.

Carl Foster was reared in Cass County, and received his education in the Lees Summit High School. For four years he taught school in Jack-



son County, and for four years following he was in the employ of the Peoples Union Mercantile Company in Independence. Later he was in the employ of King & Co., and their successors, King and Hughes, then worked for King and Horn Brothers, who were succeeded by Horn Brothers. In September, 1917, when Horn Brothers dissolved partnership, Mr. Foster went to Eldorado, Kan., with Horn and Johnson. Aug. 1, 1918, he returned to Independence and purchased the E. B. Dooley stock of groceries, as stated above.

Mr. Foster was married in November, 1902, to Elsie D. Mann, a daughter of J. A. and Edith Mann, residents of Independence. Mr. and Mrs. Foster have one son, Jesse Foster, born Aug. 14, 1903, a student in the high school. The Foster family residence is located at 721 North Liberty street. Mr. Foster is a member of the Woodmen of the World Lodge.

E. B. Dooley, proprietor of a well patronized grocery and meat market at 713 West Lexington street, Independence, Mo., was born in Indianapolis, Ind. He is a son of John W. and Rose (Bell) Dooley, the former of whom was born in New York in 1850. He located in Indianapolis and followed his profession of stationery engineer in that city until 1882, when he came to Independence, and was employed in this city in the same capacity for nine years. He is now in the employ of the Hugh Matthew Machine Shops, Kansas City, Mo. Mrs. Rose Dooley died June 15, 1919, and the remains are interred in Woodlawn cemetery. The children of the Dooley family are: E. B. Dooley, subject of this sketch; May Dooley, living at the family home, 215 South Osage street; Lee, conducting a meat market on the west side of the square; Harry, also in the meat business with his brother. (The meat market conducted by Lee and Harry Dooley is operated in connection with the Foster Cash Grocery.) The two younger sons of the family are John and Frank Dooley, at home.

E. B. Dooley attended the public schools of Independence, and his first employment was in the F. E. Hall meat market, on the north side of the square. He received \$4.00 per week, and was in Mr. Hall's employ for eight and a half years. Since that time he has been in business for himself. Mr. Dooley opened his present grocery and meat market at 213 West Lexington street, in September, 1918, and his store is stocked with a splendid line of eatables, staple and fancy groceries, and he has built up a fine patronage.

Mr. Dooley was married in January, 1906, to Miss Hattey Luff, of Independence, a daughter of Dr. Joseph and Jeanette (Parker) Luff, both of whom were born in Canada, and are now residing at 120 Pendleton avenue. One son has been born to this marriage, Roy, aged 12 years. Mr.

Dooley was first married in 1898 with Miss Bessie Letter, who died in 1900, leaving a son, Frank Dooley, bookkeeper in the offices of the Kansas City Nut and Bolt Company. The Dooley home is at 124 Pendleton avenue.

Mr. Dooley is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Loyal Order of Moose. He has an interesting recollection of the first street transportation system inaugurated in Independence, between this city and Kansas City. The cars were drawn by a wheezy little locomotive, probably a discarded one from some eastern city. The little engine pulled the train of cars and its appearance on the streets provoked much curiosity, people flocking in crowds to the square to witness the phenomenon.

G. W. Nesbitt, grocer, 1307 Lexington street, Independence, is a native of this city, born here Aug. 16, 1869. From his boyhood days he has made his own way in the world. His parents were Henry W. and Mary A. (Lucas) Nesbitt, the former of whom died in 1882, the latter departing this life in 1911.

Henry W. Nesbitt served with the Union army during the Civil War, and fought for the Union for two years, participating in the battles of Lexington and Independence. After his war service he went to Nebraska and after remaining there for a short time he returned to Independence via Wayne City. After a short residence of six years in Independence he removed to Illinois, and lived there for eight years. He then returned to Independence and resumed his trade of cabinet maker. His residence was built on Temple street, now the South River boulevard. His children are as follow: John A., in the employ of the Standard Oil Company, Sugar Creek; George W., of this review; Mrs. Alice Belle Wright, Independence; Mrs. Nellie R. Madison, deceased; Mrs. Melissa M. Nesbitt, deceased; Mrs. Bina J. Scott, Independence; Dora died in infancy.

The education of George W. Nesbitt was obtained in the public schools of Maroa, Ill., and Independence. Owing to the early death of his father, he found it necessary to go to work at an early age. Since he was 13 years of age George W. Nesbitt has been constantly employed. He first worked in the grocery store of A. T. Slack, on the south side of the square, working there for two years, the store being in charge of William A. Noland, a former school teacher. He received \$10.00 per month for the first two years, and the pay went to the support of his widowed mother. He was then employed in the Duke and Sullivan grocery at a salary of \$1.00 per day for two years, during his last month's service receiving \$18.00 per week. Mr. Nesbitt has worked for Cunningham Brothers, Yowell and



Lucas, and was manager of A. T. Slack's grocery. He also worked for W. S. Loar, and then with B. C. Loar, as partner, he purchased the Tim Pendleton grocery. One year later he sold out his interest to Loar.

For the next 11 years he was with the L. H. Fisher Silver Laundry and Towel Company. This employment kept him in close touch with the grocery business and the butchers of the city, and he learned the art of meat cutting while visiting with them. He was now ready to venture into business on his own account. He had no capital, but borrowed \$150 to embark in the grocery business with W. T. Bozarth. Six months later he sold his half interest in this store for \$450, and then remodeled the Carson grocery and was in business there for two years. He again sold out and established himself with a fine stock of goods in his present location, where he has built up a splendid trade. Mrs. Opal Gunder is his able assistant, book-keeper and cashier.

Mr. Nesbitt was married in June, 1888, to Rose M. Loar, a daughter of Judge W. S. Loar and Lucinda J. Loar, the former of whom is deceased. To this marriage there has been born the following children: Bessie, wife of Dr. Harold Bullard, of Independence; Madge L. Nesbitt; Opal, wife of J. Blaine Gunder; Clifford L., with the Thor Electrical Company, and George W., Jr., at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Nesbitt reside at 1505 West Walnut street, their home being located on ground which was pasture and served as playground for the boys of the neighborhood when Mr. Nesbitt was a youth. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Pythias.

Mr. Nesbitt has the distinction of having served as the first conductor of the first electric car operated from Kansas City to Independence, and for one and a half years he was conductor on the old Dunning line.

**E. E. Corthell**, secretary-treasurer of the Burton and Corthell Real Estate Company, Independence, Mo., was born in Union County, Illinois, Dec. 13, 1868. He is a son of Jonathan and Sarah J. (Lunf) Corthell, both of whom were natives of Maine, and the latter of whom is now living at 126 Pendleton avenue, aged 77 years. Jonathan Corthell died Jan. 14, 1908. The Corthell family came to Independence in 1890. E. E. Corthell, of this review, was the only child born to his parents.

E. E. Corthell was educated in the public schools and the Illinois State Normal School at Carbondale, Ill. After finishing his education he went to California and remained there for two years. In 1889 he came to Jackson County, and for several years followed mechanical work. In 1912 he



became a member of the real estate firm of Burton and Corthell, which was incorporated in 1913.

Mr. Corthell was married April 18, 1896, to Eliza Maude Click, of Cobden, Ill. This marriage has been blessed with one daughter, Helen May Corthell.

The Corthell residence is located at 126 Pendleton avenue. Mr. Corthell is an active member of the Reorganized Church of Latter-Day Saints in Independence.

**William R. and Adron J. Randall**, brick contractors and builders, 403 West Maple street, Independence, Mo., were born in this city and are the sons of William M. Randall, who was born in Jefferson County, W. Va., Oct. 3, 1827, a son of George and Mary (Wynkoop) Randall, both of whom were born and reared in Jefferson County, W. Va. Wm. R. Randall was born Oct. 20, 1860; Adron J. Randall was born Sept. 2, 1870.

William M. Randall married Rebecca E. Randall in Frederick County, Va., in April, 1852. Five years later they came westward to Independence and resided here until death called them. William M. Randall was the pioneer brick contractor and builder in Independence. He erected all of the early brick buildings in this city, many of which are still standing and in use. Both he and Mrs. Randall were members of the Methodist Church, South, and Mr. Randall was a Knight Templar Mason and a member of the Royal Arch Chapter of Palestine Commandery. They were the parents of five children: George W. Randall, 904 West Blue street, Independence, Mo.; William R., born Oct. 20, 1860, a partner in the contracting business; Joseph J., 409 West Lexington street; Luther Lee died in August, 1893, and Adron J., born Sept. 2, 1870; Mollie, died at the age of 13 years. William W. Randall died March 14, 1907; Mrs. Rebecca E. Randall died Nov. 18, 1911.

The Randalls are members of an old and distinguished American family of colonial ancestry. The genealogy of William R. and Adron J. Randall can be traced backward in an unbroken line to Colonel Richard Townley, who took the oath of office as royal governor of Virginia colony, Feb. 28, 1684. His wife, Elizabeth Carteret Townley, was the widow of Sir Philip Carteret, to whom the Duke of York ceded all of the east half of the state of New Jersey in 1664. After his term of office expired, Colonel Townley removed to Elizabethtown, East Jersey, so named in honor of his wife. From this couple was descended Rebecca E. Randall who came with her husband, William M. Randall to Independence from Virginia in 1856.





MRS. LAURA BRIDGES.



JOSEPH BRIDGES.





WILLIAM R. RANDALL.



MRS. WILLIAM R. RANDALL.



On June 17, 1902, Adron J. Randall married Mary Bridges. One child was born to this marriage: Adrian Bridges Randall, born June 17, 1907 and died Nov. 12, 1909. William R. Randall married Lillie Bridges on May 11, 1897. To the marriage of William R. and Lillie (Bridges) Randall have been born a son, William Joseph Randall. The brothers Randall reside at 403 West Maple street. Since their father's death, they have carried on the business of brick contracting and building and have achieved a splendid success in the business.

The Randalls have erected practically all of the more important brick and stone buildings in Jackson County and have built many large structures in this section of the state. They erected the court house, the Junior High School, the Ott School, the Noland School, the Columbia School, St. Mary's Academy, the Presbyterian College, erected the Baptist church and rebuilt it, the Liberty St. Presbyterian Church, the H. M. Baile mansion, the Mercer residence, the Knox residence, the First National and the Chrisman Sawyer Bank of Independence. While the father, William M. Randall was living, the business was carried on in his name by his sons during his old age. Randall Brothers have erected the Bryant School, the William McCoy School, the Benton School, the Blue Springs School building, the Grain Valley School, the Sugar Creek school, the High School at Plattsburg, Lawson and Norbonne, the Pacific depot at Lees Summit and the Baptist church at Lathrop.

Mrs. Laura Elizabeth (Harris) Bridges, mother of Mrs. William R. and Mrs. Adron J. Randall, widow of Joseph P. Bridges, is one of the oldest pioneer women of Jackson County. She is a native of the county and was born on the farm now owned by the widow of Major Drumm, May 14, 1838. She is a daughter of Samuel and Jane (Hall) Harris, the former of whom was born in Richmond, Va., May 16, 1807 and died in this county, Nov. 6, 1854. Mrs. Jane (Hall) Harris was born in Richmond, Va., June 12, 1814, and died August 19, 1893. Samuel Harris entered land one and a half miles southeast of Independence in 1828, now known as the Drumm farm. He developed a farm of 160 acres upon which he resided until his death. His death was caused by a kick from a mule.

The children born to Samuel and Jane Hall Harris are as follow: Reuben A., died May 16, 1910; Mary E. Clark died July 31, 1919; Judy Ervin died May 6, 1897; Mrs. Laura Bridges of this review; Missouri Ann Bridges, born April 14, 1840, resides at Blue Springs; William Henry, born May 14, 1842, died Feb. 23, 1868; Elizabeth, born Dec. 16, 1844, married



Warren Welch and died March 2, 1899; Armilda J. Bridges, born April 30, 1847 and died June 20, 1874; James H., born Jan. 8, 1851, lives at Blue Springs, Mo.; John S., born Oct. 1, 1853 and died Jan. 8, 1856.

Samuel Harris and Jonathan Shepherd did all of the hewing of the timbers and assisted in the erection of the first court house in Jackson County. This old building now stands on the lot just west of the city hall. Reuben Harris, his brother, was serving as sheriff of the county at the time this court house was erected.

Laura E. (Harris) Bridges was educated in the Oldham school and was first married to M. V. B. Flannery, of the Hickman Mill neighborhood. Mr. Flannery was shot from ambush, June 29, 1864, in Texas, while serving with the Confederate forces. His body was brought to the Texas home and buried at Johnson Station, Tarrant County, Texas. Mr. Flannery was born May 18, 1835. One son was born to this marriage, William V. Flannery, born March 20, 1861, and died in Independence, Aug. 24, 1918.

January 6, 1867, Mrs. Laura E. Flannery married Joseph P. Bridges who was born Nov. 1, 1832 and died March 24, 1904. The children born of this union are: Lillie B., wife of William R. Randall; and Mary J., wife of Adron J. Randall.

Joseph P. Bridges was twice married. His first wife was Sarah Ruth Tatum and to this union was born one son, William E. Bridges, born Dec. 23, 1859 and died Feb. 21, 1910, leaving a widow and five daughters: Mrs. Jessie McMahan, Mrs. Fred C. Wortman, Mrs. J. C. Potter, Miss Anna and Miss Kathryn Bridges, all residing in Independence.

When Order No. 11 was issued in 1863 by Gen. Thos. Ewing; calling for the evacuation of the western part of Missouri, the present Mrs. Bridges was living with her mother on the home farm near Independence, her home near Lees Summit having been burned Feb. 28, 1863 by the "White Rags", marauders from Andrew and De Kalb counties. Each of the men wore a white band or rag for his hat band, hence the name. On September 3, 1863, she and her sister, Mrs. Julia Irwin, with their children accompanied by 63 other families of the neighborhood left for Texas with their movable possessions loaded in 23 wagons. At Clinton, Mo., their horses were confiscated by Federal troops and they then procured oxen. Mrs. Laura Flannery, then a young woman of 25 years, walked and drove the oxen the entire distance through Arkansas, Louisiana and up the Arkansas River valley to Boggy Depot and on into Texas, traveling a distance of over 1,000 miles to Tarrant County. They re-

mained in Texas until the war closed. At Lone Jack, Mo., they had stocked up with 100 pounds of flour and as they left the town they heard the firing of guns about a half mile distant. It transpired that Federal troops from Kansas had killed a half dozen men belonging to the Hunter and Potter families. These victims were later buried in one grave.

Mrs. Bridges is an old school Baptist and has been a member of the church for the past 53 years. Joseph Bridges was widely known in Jackson County, took a great interest in politics and was intimately acquainted with the leaders in the political and civic affairs of the county. He never sought political office but was always ready and willing to assist his friends to political preferment. Mrs. Bridges is a splendid woman, one of the last of the true pioneer type of women to whom age has brought wisdom and who is loved and admired by all who know her. She is an authority on pioneer happenings and is frequently consulted by the newspapers and others who desire information regarding happenings in the old days.

Garrett C. Stewart, member of the firm of Stewart and Dimoush, operating the Stewart and Dimoush Planing Mill, Independence, Mo., is a native of Ohio. He was born in Coshocton, Jan. 22, 1857, a son of William and Phoebe (Price) Stewart.

William Stewart was born and reared in Virginia, and made his first trip to the West in 1836, coming as far as Lexington, Mo., where he remained for one year, and then returned home. He later went to Coshocton, and was there married to Phoebe Price, who was born in New York State in 1818, and died in Independence in 1900. Her mother was a relative of Generals Price and Meade, who were members of General Washington's staff. Some time after their marriage, William Stewart and his wife and family journeyed to Nebraska in 1864, going by way of the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri rivers. After a ten years stay in Nebraska, they removed to Iowa in 1876. In 1896 they came to Independence, where William Stewart died in 1898, aged 87 years. Their children were: George P., who died in September, 1919, at Palestine, Tex.; James died at Grinnell, Iowa, in 1893; William died in 1895 at Grinnell, Iowa; and Garrett C., subject of this sketch.

The grandmother of Garrett C. Stewart was a sister of Commodore Oliver H. Perry, the hero of the Battle of Lake Erie. She lived to attain the great age of 104 years. It is said of her that she walked six miles to her son's residence when she was 100 years old.

When eighteen years of age Garrett C. Stewart began railroading, and



for some years he was employed as a fireman. Following this employment he worked at the carpenter trade. He came to Independence Sept. 1, 1886, and soon afterwards started a planing mill in partnership with John Poppleton. This partnership continued for four years. In 1914 the present partnership of Mr. William L. Dimoush was established. For five years prior, Mr. Dimoush had been in Mr. Stewart's employ. The plant of the Stewart and Dimoush Company is located at 402 North Osage street, and is equipped for turning out all kinds of inside and outside mill work for buildings.

Dec. 20, 1887, Mr. Stewart was married to Jennie Breshaud, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and two sons have blessed this marriage: Milton and Byron Stewart, forming the Stewart Brothers Electrical Company, on West Maple street. Milton Stewart married Esther Long, of Independence. The Stewart family residence is located at 115 East Lyndon street.

Mr. Stewart is a Mason. He has in his possession a highly prized silk Masonic apron, which is over 150 years old, and has been owned by members of his family for that length of time. He has been a member of the Masonic order for 41 years, and is affiliated with the Chapter and Commandery. Mr. Stewart has been a member of the Masonic Building and Loan Association since its inception in 1907, and has filled all of the offices of the association. He is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and the Woodmen of the World.

For six years Mr. Stewart served as a member of the city council, under the administration of mayors Samuel Woodson, Llewellyn Jones and Christian Ott. While he was a member of the council the city light plant was built, and the sum of \$30,000 was voted for the erection of the plant. He served as a member of the lighting board for four years, and at all times has taken a commendable interest in city affairs.

**Col. George A. Mann**, auctioneer and real estate dealer, is probably the youngest member of his profession in Jackson County, and is one of the most aggressive and successful. He is a member of one of the best known and largest families of the county, and was born on a farm near Raytown, Mo., Aug. 20, 1893. His parents are George H. and Caroline (Odell) Mann, who reside on a farm on the Lees Summit road. George H. Mann was born in Jackson County in 1867, and has always followed farming and dairying. He is a son of Ambrose Mann, a well known and aged citizen of Fort Osage township, now residing in Buckner, a biography of whom appears in this volume. Caroline (Odell) Mann was also born in Jackson County. Four children were born to George H. and Caroline Mann, as follow: George A.,



of this review; Iva Bell died at the age of one year and 10 days; Thomas Allen Mann and Violet Dana Mann, at home with their parents.

George A. Mann was educated in the public schools and studied for two years in the Independence High School. After completing his schooling he has been engaged in the dairy and livestock business prior to entering the real estate and auction field. Colonel Mann is a graduate of the Missouri Auctioneers School of Kansas City, Mo. His office is located in Room 17 of the Battery Block.

Colonel Mann was married Oct. 6, 1915, to Marietta Courtway, a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Hinton) Courtway, of Independence. Mrs. Mann was born in Horton, Kan. To this marriage has been born a daughter, Mary Caroline Mann. The Mann residence is located at 1620 West College street.

**John S. Livesay**, farmer and dairyman, living five miles northeast of Independence, on the Lexington road, was born in Lafayette County, Missouri, May 2, 1860. He is a son of George W. and Elizabeth (Renick) Livesay, the latter of whom was born in Lafayette County in 1834, and died in 1889. George W. Livesay was born in 1831, in Greenbrier County, Virginia, immigrated to Missouri with his parents in 1832, they settling at Lexington, Lafayette county, Missouri, where he was reared to young manhood. The family homestead was located in the northwest part of Lafayette county, near the town of Napoleon. Mr. Livesay followed farming and stock raising during his whole life, and died in 1884. A brother, William Livesay, was a plainsman and widely known in this section of Missouri. The town of Levasy was built on a part of his farm and was named in his honor, the variation in spelling of the name being due to a mistake on the part of the railroad officials when the town was established.

The children born to George W. and Elizabeth Livesay are as follow: Joseph R., residing on a farm 28 miles north of El Paso, Tex.; William F., Kansas City, Mo.; John S., of this review; Sallie A., wife of Coleman Bedford, Independence, Mo.; Robert E., a merchant of Oak Grove, Mo.; Mary Rebecca, deceased, wife of J. R. Hulse, she having died near Oak Grove, in March, 1918. Further details of the Livesay family history are given in connection with the sketch of Robert E. Livesay, elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Livesay, of this review, was educated in the public schools of Lafayette County, and was reared on the home farm near Napoleon. He farmed in his home county until February, 1893, when he came to Jackson County and purchased his present farm of 114 acres, situated five miles

northeast of Independence, on the Lexington road. He purchased his farm of J. H. Parker. Part of this farm was entered from the government by John Belcher, and a part of it was entered by Mr. Anderson, both of whom were early Jackson County pioneers. Mr. Livesay maintains a herd of 15 Holstein and Jersey cows, and is operating a dairy to this extent, in connection with his general farming.

Mr. Livesay was married in 1890 to Miss Elizabeth Chinn, of Lafayette County. She was born in Kentucky, and accompanied her parents, Richard Chinn and wife, Sallie (Barton) Chinn, to Missouri when a child, the latter of whom was a daughter of Major Barton. Mr. and Mrs. Livesay have four children: Mary, Strother, Mildred and Elizabeth. By a former marriage with Frankie Henderson, of Lafayette County, who died in 1889, Mr. Livesay has one son, Frank Livesay, of Independence, Mo. Frank Livesay married Lora Gallagher, of Independence.

Mr. Livesay is a Democrat in politics.

**John W. Rogers**, proprietor of Lone Maple Farm, Blue township, was born in Platte County, Missouri, Oct. 8, 1858. He is one of 11 children born to William S. and Emily (Miller) Rogers, six of whom are living, as follow: Barton W., Sibley, Mo.; Robert W., Grant Pass, Ore.; Alice J., wife of J. B. Fisher, Denver, Colo.; John W., of this review; James E., Mesa County, Colo.; Ida M., Oregon; Wallace B., deceased.

William S. Rogers, father of John W. Rogers, was born in Calloway County, Missouri, Dec. 6, 1826. He was a son of William Rogers, who was born in Charlotte County, Virginia, Feb. 16, 1792, and who was a son of Ezekiel Rogers, an officer of the American Revolution under General Washington. William Rogers removed with his parents to Clark County, Kentucky, in 1795, and in 1801 accompanied them to Upper Louisiana or New Spain, where each settler received a grant of land totaling 640 acres. The territory was then under Spanish control. Ezekiel Rogers died in Missouri in 1811, and his wife returned to Kentucky with her eight children. William Rogers was a volunteer in the War of 1812, and served throughout the war as orderly sergeant. Upon his return home he was commissioned a captain of militia. Upon the breaking out of the Black Hawk War, in 1832, he volunteered for service and fought until the close of this war. First commissioned a major, he was promoted to colonelship, and finally was commissioned a brigadier-general. During the Florida War he raised troops for service in this war.

In 1840 he removed to Platte County, Missouri, and was the first man to organize a company of militia in that county. He was appointed brig-



adier-inspector by B. M. Hughes, and was a most efficient officer. His name was presented for the legislative seat from Platte County in 1843, but the great amount of rascality and trickery he encountered in his canvass caused his upright nature to rebel, and he withdrew from the contest, saying if he could not go into office honorably he would not serve at all. When the Mexican War broke out he regretted that he was too old for service. He thereupon sent his oldest son, at that time 19 years of age, to serve with the American troops. Four months later, when the second call for volunteers was issued, he sent his second son, only 16 years of age. During the Civil War he espoused the cause of the Confederacy, and assisted in drilling troops. After the war closed he declared that his rights as a citizen had been taken away from him, and he vowed never again to cast a vote. He died Sept. 9, 1886, and his remains are interred at Sibley, Mo.

William S. Rogers removed to Platte County with his parents when a boy, and there grew to manhood. In 1849 he married Emily Miller, a native of Franklin County, born in 1852. In 1868 he removed to Wyandotte County, Kansas, and three years later he returned to Missouri, settling in Jackson County, on a farm 12 miles northeast of Independence, where he died March 17, 1903, and is buried in Six Mile cemetery. William S. Rogers was a veteran of the Mexican and Civil Wars. During the Civil War he served as captain of Company C, Colonel Winston's regiment.

John W. Rogers was educated in the common schools and has made his own way in the world since he attained the age of 15 years. He first worked for the neighboring farmers, and in July, 1878, he went to South Park, Colo., and worked on a ranch for 11 months. In company with his three brothers and another man he went to Leadville, in 1879, and thence to New Mexico and Texas, and soon afterwards to Kansas. In March he returned to Leadville, and was ill at that place for two months. Upon recovering from his illness he worked three years on a ranch. He then purchased a ranch of 320 acres at South Park, Colo. He sold this later and returned to Jackson County in 1905, and purchased his present farm of 35 acres, on the Lexington road, which he has improved by remodeling the residence and building additional fencing, making an attractive place.

Mr. Rogers was married Dec. 1, 1897, in Jackson County, to Sophia M. Sanders, who was born Oct. 2, 1867, in Garrard County, Kentucky, a daughter of Samuel P. and Martha E. (Bright) Sanders, the latter of whom died when Mrs. Rogers was but a child. She was then reared by her aunt, Mildred J. Douglas, of Fort Osage township. Her maternal grandmother,



whose maiden name was Sophia Rochester, was a granddaughter of Nicholas Rochester, born in Kent County, England, in 1640, and settled in Westmoreland County, Virginia, in 1686. His grandson, Nathaniel Rochester, was the founder of the city of Rochester, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Rogers have six children, the first five of whom were born in South Park, Colo., and the youngest was born in Jackson County. The children are as follow: Mary Alice, George Samuel, Lela Emily, Mildred Martha, Vera Lorena Elizabeth and Florence Aleene.

Mary Alice married William Elmer Coggeshall, of Independence, Mo., June 17, 1918, and is the mother of a son, Rolland Rogers Coggeshall.

George Samuel Rogers enlisted in the United States Navy on July 22, 1918, and was in training at the Great Lakes Naval Training School or Camp until March 1, 1919, when he received his honorable discharge from the service. Lela Emily is at home. Mildred Martha is a teacher of Union school, Mary Alice, George S., Lela Emily and Mildred are all graduates of Independence High School.

George W. Hallar, late well known resident of the neighborhood of Blue Springs, Mo., was a member of one of the oldest and most prominent pioneer families of Jackson County. He was born in Mercersburg, Pa., Oct. 16, 1836 and died Nov. 10, 1903. He was a son of Jacob and Mary Ann (Wilkes) Hallar.

Jacob Hallar was born at Frederickstown, Md., in 1814, and died in Independence of cholera in 1854. He came from Pennsylvania to Missouri in 1845 and settled in Independence. He erected the flouring mill later known as the Wagoner and Gates Steam Mill, the latter parties purchasing it in 1866. Mr. Hallar also built the first foundry in Independence and also constructed the Wayne City macadam road, the first rock road ever built in Jackson County, which provided a roadway to the steamboat landing on the Missouri River. He crossed the plains in company with his brother Philip to the California gold fields in 1849, his brother Philip dying on the way. He returned to Independence in 1851 and went from here to Pennsylvania via the Missouri and Ohio rivers, in the following year. Jacob Hallar also laid out the Hallar and Michael O'Fallon addition to Independence. He was owner of the land where Woodlawn cemetery is now located and sold this tract to the city for cemetery purposes.

Jacob and Mary Ann Wilkes Hallar were parents of the following children: George Washington Hallar, of this review; Anna Mary, wife of C. C. Chiles, banker of Independence; John Colvin Hallar was for some years a pony express rider on the plains in the employ of Russell and





GEORGE WASHINGTON HALLAR.





GEORGE W. KREEGER.



farm and remained with his father until 1903. In that year he moved to his own farm, near Six Mile Church, and remained on this place until September, 1918, when he removed to his present place in Blue township. This farm consists of 285 acres, 120 acres of which was part of his grandfather Lewis' estate, 88 acres were purchased from H. H. Gentry, and 75 acres were bought from John S. Cogswell. Besides this farm Mr. Lentz owns 157 acres of land in Fort Osage township. During the past year (1919) Mr. Lentz has completed a modern brick residence, fitted with a Deico lighting system, hot and cold water, a basement divided into three rooms under the entire house, thus providing a cold storage room for fruits and vegetables. Mr. Lentz has 17 acres of orchard on his farm, which is equipped with five sets of improvements and well watered.

The Lentz herd of registered Herefords numbers 40 head of cows, and is headed by "Delpino." In addition he raises Poland China hogs. The Lentz farm is located five miles northeast of Independence, on the Ather-ton road.

Mr. Lentz was married Oct. 27, 1903, to Mary U. Ucker, a daughter of Joseph and Ann (Reber) Ucker, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. One daughter has been born to this marriage, Anna Marie Lentz, student in the Independence High School.

**John T. Crump**, native born pioneer, veteran of the Civil War, now living retired on his place on the Lexington road, one and a fourth miles northeast of Independence, was born April 8, 1845. He is a son of Samuel T. and Paulina (Cox) Crump, both of whom were born in Kentucky.

Samuel T. Crump was born May 1, 1820, near Danville, Ky., and died in September, 1854, his remains being interred in the Lobb cemetery. Mrs. Paulina Crump was born in 1822, and died in 1862. She was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, known as the Lobb Church, north of Blue Springs. Samuel T. Crump came to Jackson County about 1837 with his parents, Daniel and Elizabeth Crump, who settled on what is now known as the Isaac Lowe farm, north of Blue Springs, in Sniabar township. The log house which Daniel Crump erected on this place in 1839 is still standing, and is used as the residence of the sons of Andrew Lowe. Mrs. Elizabeth Crump died of cholera in 1849. Daniel Crump died in October, 1858. He gave the land and founded the Lobb cemetery. The first body buried in this cemetery was that of a negro slave girl, who belonged to him. The children of Samuel and Paulina Crump are as follow: Mrs. Lucy Jane Dalton, widow of Rev. James G. Dalton, Grain Valley, Mo., a



sketch of whom appears in this volume; John T., of this review; Elizabeth A., deceased, was the wife of W. W. Lobb; Susan died in infancy.

The first school which John T. Crump attended was held in the Nathan Hunt school house, a structure built of hewn logs. Wesley Mayes and Ed. Koger were his first teachers, the latter being a one-legged man, and a fine teacher and popular with his pupils. Mr. Koger died of pneumonia shortly after John T. Crump became a pupil of his. After leaving school, Mr. Crump took up the vocation of farmer. During the Civil War he served for nearly one year, from February, 1862, to January, 1863, with the forces of Gen. Joe Shelby. In July, 1863, he crossed the plains and went to the western country, driving ox teams. He made two trips across the plains, and also drove a freighting outfit from Denver to Virginia City. For three years he herded cattle and drove freighting outfits, and returned home in 1867, taking passage on a steamboat at the head of navigation on the Missouri River, and landing at Wayne City after a journey of over 2,700 miles, his ticket costing him \$50.00 for the trip. The memorable boat trip was made in nine and a half days, the boat tying up to the river bank each night.

In 1871 Mr. Crump settled on his farm of 71 acres near Adams Station, and cleared his land of timber and brush, erected all improvements and continued to make his home on this place for nearly a half century.

He was married April 20, 1871, to Nannie E. Fisher, who was born in January, 1852, a daughter of George W. and Mary E. (Crow) Fisher, who were early pioneers in Jackson County, coming to this county from Kentucky. A sketch of George W. Fisher and wife appears in this volume in connection with that of William A. Fisher. Mrs. Nannie E. Crump died Oct. 3, 1914, and is buried in the Lobb cemetery. The children born to John T. and Nannie E. Crump are as follow: Samuel T., Okmulgee, Okla.; George F., Independence; J. William, went to Oregon March 1, 1901, and his present address is unknown; John H., Independence; Lucy M., wife of Harry G. Chance, Independence; Dalton H., at home; Howard Morrison; Benjamin, died when a year old; Mary P., the wife of Ross Yankee, Okmulgee, Okla.

Howard Morrison Crump enlisted in the National Army in July, 1917, was first trained at Camp Doniphan, and thence sent to Camp Mills, N. Y. He was then sent overseas to England, and thence to France, where he served for over a year on the western front as a member of the 129th Field Artillery. He is now in Independence.

John T. Crump is the oldest male member in point of years of mem-

bership of the Lobb Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He joined this church in October, 1868, and has been active in its affairs for over 50 years, 20 of which he served as clerk of the church. He is a fine character, a man who stands high in the esteem of his fellow citizens, and is respected and admired by all who know him.

**William Edward Vaughan.**—The late William Edward Vaughan, of Blue township, was a man of industry, intelligence, and stood high as a citizen in his community. He was born in Independence, Mo., Nov. 4, 1858, and died at his home in Blue township Oct. 1, 1917. He was a son of Patrick and Mary (Melody) Vaughan, both natives of Ireland, and came to Jackson County during the early forties, after emigrating from their native isle. Both spent the remainder of their lives here, the former dying in February, 1885, and the latter in November, 1885. Their remains lie buried in the Catholic cemetery.

Patrick and Mary Vaughan were the parents of the following children: Mrs. Mollie Inman, Independence; Mrs. Elizabeth Everett, Independence; Hugh Vaughan, Blue township; Thomas Vaughan, Colorado; Patrick Vaughan, deputy county clerk, Independence; Mrs. Frank Adams, Blue township; Michael, deceased; Mrs. Margaret Hostetter, deceased; William Edward, subject of this review; Henry, deceased; John, deceased; Catherine died in infancy.

William Edward Vaughan was reared and educated in Jackson County and followed farming and stock raising during his mature life. The Vaughan place of 70 acres, situated six and a half miles northeast of Independence, on the old Santa Fe trail, was built up through his efforts, and is now one of the fine places on the highway. The Vaughan residence was erected in 1900, and the farm is equipped with four barns for housing livestock.

Mr. Vaughan was married in 1895 to Miss Jennie Everett, a daughter of Henry Clay and Rhoda (Hall) Everett, the latter of whom was born in Indiana in 1841, and died in 1913, at the home of her daughter. Henry Clay Everett was born in Pennsylvania. He died in Taney County, Missouri, in 1889, at the age of 61 years. The children of the Everett family are: John Everett, Independence, Mo.; Mrs. Sallie Williams, Liberty, Mo.; Mrs. Jennie Vaughan, of this review; Mrs. Callie Letchworth, of Liberty, Mo.; Addis Everett, Kansas City; Luther Everett, Gaun Valley, S. D.; William, Gaun Valley, S. D.

Henry Clay Everett served with the American Army in the Mexican War, and was for some years a plainsman and freighter in the employ of



the government, in transportation of goods to California and western points.

The children born to William Edward and Jennie Vaughan are as follow: Bryan, at home, studied at Central Business College, Kansas City; Callie Elizabeth, graduate of the local convent in 1918; Allan, now a student in second year high school, Independence; Virginia, at home.

**Dr. John Bryant.**—For 70 years past the Bryants have been prominently identified with the professional and business development of Kansas City, Independence and Jackson County. Four generations of this honored pioneer family have resided in the county and every member of the family who has attained maturity has taken a leading place in his respective community. Many years of successful medical practice in Kansas City and Independence, succeeded by a no less successful business experience have placed Dr. John Bryant of Independence in the front rank of prominent and wealthy citizens of Jackson County.

Dr. John Bryant was born in Jessamine County, Ky., March 19, 1843, and when seven years of age he came to Jackson County with his father, Dr. John Bryant. Dr. Bryant is descended from an old and prominent American family, members of which have fought in the wars of their country, a great uncle of the subject of this review having served as a soldier in the American Revolution. His name, also, was John Bryant.

The founder of this family in America was James Bryant, Sr., who emigrated from England to America in about 1700 and settled at Manakintown, Va. (II) James Bryant. (III) John Bryant of Cumberland County, Va., born Jan. 1, 1760. (IV) George S. Bryant, a native of Girard County, Ky., born in April, 1789. (V) Dr. John Bryant, Sr., father of the subject of this review. (VI) Dr. John Bryant, of this review.

George Smith Bryant, grandfather of Dr. John Bryant, was born April 18, 1789 and died in Independence, Aug. 5, 1850. His wife was Keziah Arnold, prior to her marriage. She was born March 17, 1790 and died July 21, 1858. They were married in 1807 and were parents of the following children: Berilla, born Oct. 18, 1808, married Rev. Kemper of the Hickman's Mill; Polly A., born Sept. 7, 1810, died Oct. 15, 1810; Margaret born Aug. 17, 1812, died April 8, 1818; Isaac A., born Nov. 21, 1818, died Nov., 1896, in Jackson County, Mo.; Dr. John Bryant, born Nov. 30, 1806, died Aug. 16, 1902 at Independence, Mo.

John Bryant, Sr., father of Dr. John Bryant, of this sketch, married Martha Ann Vaughn, Oct. 1, 1838. She died Sept. 5, 1892. They



Major and died in 1874; William M. Hallar was killed in battle in Bates County, Mo., in 1863; James Albert Hallar, shot from ambush on Sniabar River while watering the horses of his troop which was a part of the command of Gen. Sterling Price of the Confederate army; Oliver J. Hallar served in Price's army and later died in Kansas City; C. R. Hallar resides in Kansas City; Jacob Hallar died in infancy; Ed Hallar, a farmer in Benton County, Mo.; Sallie J. married Samuel Sullivan of Independence, Mo.

George W. Hallar attended Chapel Hill district school during his boyhood days, and was a schoolmate of Senator George Vest, Senator Stephen B. Elkins, Senator Francis M. Cockrell, Prof. George S. Brown, John T. Crisp and the Rev. James Dalton. For some years prior to Civil War he carried mail from Independence to Salt Lake City, making several trips across the plains with Stephen Rennaberger.

After his marriage with Martha F. Kreeger on Jan. 14, 1876, Mr. and Mrs. Hallar settled on the old Hallar home place near Blue Springs. Mr. Hallar was engaged in farming this place until their removal to Independence. They sold this farm to Mr. Harris, moved to Blue Springs, lived there one year, then moved to a farm across the road from the home place, residing there until 1891. Mr. Hallar was twice married. His first wife was Miss Sue Cox whom he married in 1860. Two children were born to this marriage: Mrs. Georgia Walker, deceased; and Mrs. Susie Alexander, 814 Van Horn road.

Three children were born to George W. and Martha F. (Kreeger) Hallar, only one of whom is living, Aileen, wife of George L. Remington, 822 Van Horn street, Independence. Aileen Hallar and George L. Remington were married April 29, 1915. In June, 1891, Mr. and Mrs. Hallar removed to Independence. Mrs. Hallar now resides at 822 W. Van Horn road. Mrs. Martha F. (Kreeger) Hallar was born Aug. 21, 1853 on a farm two and a half miles west of Lone Jack. She is a daughter of George W. and Araminta (Daniel) Kreeger. The family resided on the farm west of Lone Jack until Order No. 11 was issued in August, 1863, when they drove with an ox team to Davis, Lafayette County, Mo., staying there during the following winter. The first night on the road was spent at Chapel Hill. Her grandfather, John Daniel, Hank Gibbons and Thomas Tucker also drove through to Lafayette County with ox teams at the same time. The children drove a few head of cattle. At Tebo River in Lafayette County, the oxen being thirsty, they made a break for the river on a gallop, the drivers losing control of the teams. The oxen plunged into

the water and slaked their thirst but, fortunately did not upset the wagons. Fifty years later Mrs. Hallar crossed the same stream for the first time since the war in a large touring car. On the night before the memorable battle of Lone Jack, Mrs. Hallar recalls that General Cockrell with his force of Confederates, camped in the Kreeger pasture and Mrs. Hallar heard the sound of the guns and the roar of battle the next day.

John Daniel, grandfather of Mrs. Hallar, was one of the earliest pioneers of the Lone Jack neighborhood and became a large land owner. He died at the age of 80 years on the farm which he had developed and is buried at Pleasant Grove near Lone Jack. George W. Kreeger, father of Mrs. Hallar, followed farming and stock raising all of his days and died in 1894. Mrs. Kreeger died in 1875. Their remains rest in Pleasant Lawn cemetery. The children of George W. and Araminta Kreeger are as follow: Mrs. Martha Hallar, of this review; John D. Kreeger, Lone Jack, Mo.; R. R. Kreeger, Kansas City, Mo.; William H., Columbia, Ariz.; Mary F. Kreeger, deceased; James L. Kreeger, Boonville, Mo.; Mrs. O. D. Powell, Cockrell, Mo.; Josiah A., Lone Jack, Mo.; Mrs. John R. Blackwell, of Lees Summit, Mo., and Charles L., twins, lives at Lone Jack; Dr. George G. Kreeger, Richmond, Kan.

Mr. Hallar was a Democrat. He was universally respected by all who knew him. He was a member of the Masons and a member of the Mystic Shrine, Ararat Temple, Kansas City, Mo.

**William L. Dimoush**, junior member of the firm Stewart and Dimoush, planing mill, 402 North Osage street, was born in Kansas City, Mo., March 14, 1882. He is a son of Louis C. and Louisa (Thieme) Dimoush, the former of whom was born in St. Louis, Mo., in 1858, and came to Jackson County with his parents, who settled at Westport in 1870. The father of Louis C. Dimoush operated the old Harris House at Westport for about one year, and died there. He was a veteran of the Civil War. Louis C. Dimoush followed the tobacco business in Kansas City until 1901, and since that time has been in the employ of the Kansas City Terminal Company as special officer. The children of Louis C. and Louisa Dimoush are as follow: William L., subject of this sketch; Walter J., Kansas City, Mo.; Augusta E., 2204 Park street, Kansas City. The Dimoush family is of French origin, the name having originally been "De Moush."

William L. Dimoush graduated from the William Cullen Bryant School in 1896, and then studied for two years in Central High School. For a period of four years he was in the employ of the C. W. Gorman Planing Mill Company, at Twenty-fifth and Grand avenue. Following this employ-



ment he was with the Huttig Mill and Kansas City Sash and Door Company, the Lovejoys Planing Mill, and then spent a year in Denver, Colo. In 1906 he entered the employ of Garrett C. Stewart. In 1914 Mr. Dimoush became a member of the firm.

Aug. 6, 1902, Mr. Dimoush was united in marriage with Elizabeth Florence Ford, a daughter of Zachariah and Sallie (Johnson) Ford, both of whom are deceased. Five children have been born to this union: Walter Carl, William Leonard, Albert B., Harold August, and Louise Florence.

The Dimoush family resides at Fifteenth and Ralston avenue, Maywood. Mr. Dimoush is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

**James Strodtman**, owner of a splendid farm of 217 acres on the Lexington road, in Blue township, is a native of Missouri. He was born in Lafayette County in 1856, and is a son of John G. and Sophia Elizabeth Strodtman, the former of whom was born in Germany in 1812, and died in Lafayette County, Missouri, in 1899, and the latter died in 1897, at the age of 78 years.

John G. Strodtman immigrated to America in 1833 and first settled in Kentucky. Remaining there but a short time, he came to St. Louis, and in about 1836 he made a permanent location in Lafayette County, where he became owner of a farm and reared a fine family of children. His children are as follow: Mrs. J. G. Burnley, wife of the president of the Bank of Buckner, Mo.; William, Oak Grove, Mo.; James, of this review; Mrs. Sophia Summers, deceased; Mrs. Kate Edwards, formerly a teacher in the Lexington College, deceased; John, the oldest son of the family, was a prominent farmer in Lafayette County, and died on his farm near Napoleon.

James Strodtman was reared and educated in Lafayette County, and prior to locating in Jackson County he was engaged in the mercantile business in Johnson County, Missouri, where he located in 1882. He purchased his present fine farm of 217 acres of Walter Alexander in 1904, and has spent several hundred dollars on improvements. Mr. Strodtman has remodeled the residence, at a cost of over \$2,000.00, and has an all modern home. The Strodtman land is devoted to the raising of alfalfa, as well as wheat, corn and all other crops common in this section. During 1918, and also in 1919, five cuttings of alfalfa were made from the fields.

Mr. Strodtman was married Oct. 17, 1878, to Mattie Elizabeth Wallace, a daughter of James and Lucy (Howerton) Wallace, both of whom are deceased. Mr. Wallace was reared in Lafayette County. Mrs. Wallace was born in North Carolina, and her parents were early pioneers in Henry



County, Missouri. Both are buried in the Carr cemetery in Lafayette County. Mr. and Mrs. Strodtman have four children: Mrs. Bessie Alice, wife of Walton Steel, St. Louis, Mo.; Pearl, wife of Poindexter Bush, Independence, Mo.; Lee Strodtman, married Bama Crutsinger, and lives on the home place and has two children, Nadina and Glenna Lee; Floyd Benjamin, at home with his parents. The latter served three months in the National Army during the World War, enlisting in September, 1918, and was mustered out of the service in December, 1918.

Mr. Strodtman is a member of the Woodmen of the World, and one of Jackson County's progressive citizens.

**J. H. Lentz.**—For the past 16 years J. H. Lentz has been a successful breeder of Hereford cattle—a strain originated by his father, the late Noah Lentz, in 1897, and known throughout this section of the country as fine registered, pure-bred stock. The Lentz farm consists of 285 acres, and is well improved, one of the finest places in Jackson County.

J. H. Lentz was born in Jackson County, March 31, 1878. He is a son of Noah and Eliza J. (Lewis) Lentz. Noah Lentz was born in Rockingham County, Virginia, in 1841, and was there reared to young manhood, serving for two years in the Confederate army under General Stonewall Jackson. In 1875 he left Virginia and came westward, first stopping in Lafayette County, Missouri, and then coming to Jackson County. He purchased the Croysdale farm in Fort Osage township, improved it, and began the breeding of Whitefaced cattle in 1897. He made one of the notable successes in Jackson County as a farmer and livestock breeder, and accumulated several hundred acres of land. About one month prior to his death he removed to Independence, and died there March 5, 1916. Eliza J. (Lewis) Lentz was a daughter of James W. Lewis, who entered the land comprising a part of the Lewis farm in Blue township, now owned by the subject of this sketch. She died on this place in 1881. James W. Lewis was the father of 17 children, only two of whom, David and Herman, are now living. Two sons were born to Noah and Eliza J. Lentz, as follow: J. William Lentz, Wray, Colo., and J. H., of this review.

By a second marriage of Noah Lentz to Miss Louise Kirby there were three children born: Oliver, deceased; Mrs. Myrtle Baldus, Independence, and Thomas H., on the home farm in Fort Osage township, five miles east of Buckner.

J. H. Lentz was educated in the public schools of Jackson County, and pursued a business course at Baker University, Baldwin, Kan., graduating from the commercial department in 1897. He then returned to the home



*John Bryant*





Ed. E. Fender was educated in the common schools of Iowa and Illinois. For a number of years he was engaged in the mercantile and creamery business at Rhine, Kan., and then operated a general store at Holden, Mo., for seven years. Mr. Fender was at Holden from 1902 to October, 1918. He followed farming in Johnson County, Missouri, for four years prior to locating in Jackson County, where he purchased the Winfrey Brothers farm in October, 1918. This farm was formerly the Gentry place, and is the original home place of the Moores, where a battle was fought between the Federals and Confederates during the Civil War. During the war the present Fender residence was used by Gen. Joe Shelby as his headquarters, and was also used as a hospital for the wounded and sick. The residence is a large, two-story brick structure of eight rooms, erected in 1856 by Mr. Moore, who was a slave owner prior to the war. A number of soldiers are buried on this farm, and the house was damaged by a cannon ball during the course of the battle which raged around it, a corner of the building having been shot away. Mr. Fender has 25 acres of alfalfa which yielded four cuttings during the past season. Since taking possession of the place he has planted an orchard of five acres.

Mr. Fender was married at Holden, Mo., June 10, 1908, to Miss Retta Parsons, a daughter of William and Martha (Kent) Parsons, the latter of whom makes her home with Mrs. Fender, and is aged 81 years. She was born Nov. 14, 1838, in Caldwell County, Missouri, and is a daughter of H. N. Kent, a native of Pennsylvania, who first moved to Ohio, thence to Illinois, and settled in Missouri in 1838. He died in Lee County, Illinois, in 1893. His wife was born in Indiana, and died in Madison County in 1841. William Parsons was born in Grant County, Indiana, and was married to Martha Kent on Feb. 28, 1856. He died on Nov. 29, 1913, and is buried in Independence cemetery. The children born to William and Martha Parsons are as follow: Rev. Alonzo Parsons, Independence, is pastor of Walnut Park Church of Latter-Day Saints; H. E. Parsons, Oklahoma; J. L. Parsons, Seattle; Cora, wife of J. Oglesbie, Nevada, Mo.; O. R. Parsons, Independence, Mo.; Olivia, wife of John W. Taylor, Blairstown, Mo.; Mrs. Retta Fender, of this review. Mr. and Mrs. Fender have three children: Everett, Edwin and Lucille.

By a former marriage with Bertha Knapp, of Beloit, Kan., Mr. Fender has four children: Alma Fender, DeSoto, Kan.; Mabel, wife of C. J. Blythe, Stotesbury, Mo.; George Fender, a sergeant in the regular army, stationed at Camp Grant, Illinois. He enlisted in August, 1916, and served with the punitive expedition after Villa in Mexico, and he served with the

A. E. F. for one year in France. The fourth child is Pearl, living in Independence, Mo. The mother of these children died in 1903.

Mr. Fender is independent in politics. He and Mrs. Fender are members of the Reorganized Church of Latter-Day Saints. Mr. Fender served as a member of the State High Council of the Holden Stake.

**John Alfred Kerr**, who is engaged in the real estate and loan business, Independence, Mo., was born in Washington County, Texas, Dec. 27, 1852. He is a son of William Penn Kerr, who was born in Philadelphia, Pa., July 10, 1814.

When William Penn Kerr was two years of age he was taken to Tennessee by his uncle, Alexander Thompson, and was reared there to young manhood. In 1830 he accompanied his uncle and father's family to Texas, and settled in Washington County. His father was Hugh Kerr, a native of Scotland, who died in 1845. Hugh Kerr was a poet of unusual ability. He wrote several poems based upon incidents of the early history of Texas, which were widely copied in the public press of that day. William Penn Kerr fought for the freedom of the Lone Star State in the Texas War of liberation from Mexico. He served under Colonel Sam Houston, and fought at the battle of San Jacinto, the decisive battle which ended in a great victory for the Texans and gave Texas her freedom as a republic. He accompanied his son, John Alfred Kerr, to Missouri in 1888, and died at the Kerr home in Fairmount Park in 1901. For over 50 years he had resided on one farm in Texas. His wife was Elizabeth Hill, a native of Georgia, who died in 1885. She was a daughter of Asa Hill, and a cousin of Benjamin Hill, a noted states rights advocate and statesman of Georgia, who stood for the rights of the Southern states and boldly championed their cause on the floor of the United States Senate during the reconstruction days.

John Alfred Kerr was married to Miss M. E. Woodfin, of Tuscumbia, Ala., Nov. 21, 1874. The children born to this marriage are: John W., a garage man, Independence; Lelia Fay Kerr, Kansas City, Mo.; Ira Erma, wife of John H. Hardin, Independence, Mo.; Alberta Penn, San German, Cuba, is owner of a large cattle and sugar ranch; Rector M. Kerr, 816 North Liberty street, Independence, a civil engineer in the employ of the Union Terminal Company; Emma Nettie, wife of Dr. L. H. Bradbury, Lyons, Kan.; Mary, wife of Warren D. Tracey, Toledo, Ohio; Maud F. Kerr, a stenographer for the Santa Fe Railway Company; Proctor H., assistant paymaster for the Kansas City Bolt and Nut Works; Marguerite, wife of A. W. Hudnall, Independence, Mo.; Kathleen, wife of John F. Jones, St. Louis, Mo. The mother of the foregoing children was born in Mississippi, a



daughter of Colonel Woodfin, a Confederate veteran. At the outbreak of the war he was a prosperous merchant and planter of Tupelo, Miss. He lost all he possessed during the war, and served four years in behalf of the lost cause. He died in Texas in 1886. His wife was a Miss Norwood, who died at Cotulla, Texas, in 1887. Mrs. Kerr died in 1914. She was a cousin of Henry Woodfin Grady, whose monument stands in the main thoroughfare of Atlanta, Ga., while a monument of Benjamin Hill, of Georgia, cousin of Mr. Kerr, stands in the Senate Chamber of the capitol building at Atlanta, Ga.

While a resident of La Salle County, Texas, John Alfred Kerr, of this review, served six years as treasurer of La Salle County, Texas. Prior to coming to Missouri, in 1888, he had been successfully engaged in the mercantile and banking business in that county. He resigned his position as treasurer when he came to Independence. His second marriage was with Mrs. Elizabeth Easter, of Independence, widow of Henry Easter. Mr. and Mrs. Kerr are rearing five of Mrs. Kerr's grandchildren, viz: Edward, Ruth, Joseph, Jewell and John Lamfort.

The Kerr family residence is located at 901 Cleveland avenue, Kansas City, Mo. Mr. Kerr is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Blue Lodge, Chapter and Knights Templar.

**John E. Hill**, senior member of Hill Brothers Hardware Company, Independence, Mo., was born March 11, 1854 and is a son of Richard and Elizabeth (Stears) Hill, both of whom were natives of England.

Richard Hill was a pioneer settler in Waukesha County, Wis., where he followed his trade of wagon maker. He came to Jackson County in 1869 and established a shop on East Lexington street. After working for the former owner of the shop for a time he purchased it and the firm was known as the Hill and Humphrey Wagon Shop, Mr. Humphrey attending to the iron working department of the business. Mr. Hill operated this shop until his death in 1911, his wife having preceded him in death several years before. Richard and Elizabeth Hill were parents of the following children: John E. Hill, of this review; Mrs. Anna Hedrick, deceased; Joseph, Leadville, Colo.; Mrs. Carrie Lowe, Independence; Mrs. Lottie Kirk, Kansas City, Mo.; C. S. Hill, junior, member of the Hill Brothers Hardware Company.

For 28 years after coming to Independence in 1870, John E. Hill was in the employ of the Slack and Nichols Hardware store. In the meantime the firm had been changed to Nichols Brothers; then was known as the Nichols Hardware Company. Mr. Hill's first partner was Mr. Martin



and the business was operated under the name of Hill and Martin in 1899. The firm name was later changed to Hill. Martin and Hill, composed of Charles S. Hill, J. W. Martin and John E. Hill. In January, 1918, Hill Brothers purchased Mr. Martin's interest. The hardware store is located on the northeast corner of the Court House Square, and the business is housed in a building owned by the firm, 60 x 80 feet, with two floors, a room 30 x 80 feet being leased to a grocery establishment. A basement is used and a tinshop is located in the rear of the display room. Hill Brothers carry a complete line of hardware, stoves, tinware, cutlery, etc., and they do all kinds of furnace work, steam and hot water heat installations and plumbing.

John E. Hill was married in 1907 to Miss Lillie Smith, of Independence. By a former marriage with Miss Katie Ross, he has three children: Clarence D. Hill, in the employ of Metropolitan Street Railway Company, Kansas City; Ross E., an electrician, Kansas City; Mrs. Lawrence Hills, Independence, whose husband is an electrician employed at Sugar Creek.

Hill Brothers is one of the successful and hustling business concerns of Independence who have an extensive patronage from Independence, Kansas City and the surrounding territory in Jackson County.

**Major Robert W. Barr**, dairyman and successful breeder of registered Jersey cattle, has had an interesting and useful career. After years of military service he concluded to engage in farming and stock raising and has brought to his new field of endeavor the same concentration of purpose which made him successful in other fields. Mr. Barr was born at Montrose, Mo., Dec. 13, 1887, and is a son of Dr. B. B. Barr.

Dr. B. B. Barr was a native of Montrose and was living in Henry County at the outbreak of the Civil War. The family returned to Tennessee and remained there until the close of the war. While there he attended medical school and upon his return to Montrose he began the practice of medicine which was continued for many years in the city of Clinton. His wife was Margaret Squires, a daughter of Jerome B. and Cynthia (McNeely) Squires and was also born in Henry County. They were parents of three children Mrs. Harold Pierce, of Paragould, Ark.; Robert W. Barr of this review; Herbert M. Barr engaged in the jobbing business at Omaha, Neb.

Robert W. Barr was educated in the public schools of Clinton, Mo. He entered West Point Military Academy in 1906 and graduated from this institution in 1910. He served as lieutenant of the Coast Artillery Corps on the Pacific coast at Fort Baker, Cal., and at Fortress Monroe, Va.

were the parents of the following children: Thomas Vaughn Bryant, born July 16, 1839, died July 24, 1916; George Smith Bryant, born April 2, 1841, died Nov. 2, 1916; John Bryant, of this review; William L. Bryant, born April 5, 1845, died in 1917; Oliver P. Bryant, born Nov. 23, 1848, died May 2, 1914; Bettie, born April 17, 1851, died July 12, 1852; Mary Belle, born May 6, 1853, died June 21, 1853; and Martha Ann, born Sept. 4, 1855, died May 16, 1888.

Dr. John Bryant, Sr., was educated for the profession of medicine and upon coming to Jackson County in 1850 he practiced at Independence. He was prominent in the affairs of this city and county during the remainder of his life. He became a land owner. He gave the land for the building of a private school in the city of his adoption and with Judge Sheley and James Smart, erected a brick school building and employed the teachers for the school. This building stood just in the rear of William Bryant's home. Rev. Noah Miller, a Christian preacher, also organized a school and he and M. W. Miller taught school in a frame building near the woolen mills, prior to the erection of the brick school house. He was a charter member, deacon and elder of the First Christian church of Independence.

Dr. John Bryant, of this review, attended both of these schools in his boyhood days. His summer vacations were spent in herding cattle and raising crops on his father's farm near Hickman's Mill southeast of Independence. William Z. Hickman, author of this history, was his schoolmate and playmate in those days and Dr. Bryant and his wife began their wedded life in a house on the lot now owned by Mr. Hickman. About 1860 the soil on the Bryant farm was first broken by the plow and Dr. Bryant raised his first crop of corn that year. From 1861 to 1866 John Bryant read medicine with his father who kept a drug store on the south side of the court house square. In the fall of 1862 he entered St. Louis Medical College and was graduated in 1864. The following fall he went to Philadelphia and entered Jefferson Medical College from which he was graduated in 1866. He then began practice in Independence. In the fall of 1866 he began practice in Kansas City but returned to his home city in 1867 and continued his practice until about 1892, when he gradually relinquished his practice so as to devote his entire time to business pursuits. Since that time Dr. Bryant has looked after the extensive real estate interests of Mrs. Bryant in Kansas City. In company with D. O. Smart and E. P. Graves, he erected the Commercial Block in Kansas City which was occupied by G. Y. Smith. They also erected the Robinson



Shoe Company building in Kansas City. He remodeled the old Smart House, which is now occupied by the Bergson-Clark Company and the Luce Trunk Factory. In 1892 he erected the Bryant building for the Robert Keith Furniture Co. and remodeled it for an office building ten years later in 1902. Dr. Bryant purchased his present residence plot of one and a half acres at 519 South Main in 1869 and erected one of the finest residences in Independence. The place has a beautiful blue grass lawn shaded by a variety of forest trees which he planted. The Bryant place was but a barren lot when he purchased it from Otho and Evan Hall.

Dr. Bryant was married Oct. 11, 1866 to Miss Harriet M. Smart, a daughter of the late Judge T. A. Smart of Kansas City, mention of whom is made in this volume. The children born to this union are Mrs. Charles E. Knox, Berkeley, Cal.; Mrs. L. E. Newman, St. Louis, Mo.; Mrs. W. H. Schutz, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. G. W. Backman, Kansas City, Mo.; Dr. Carl H. Bryant, Kansas City, Mo. Dr. and Mrs. Bryant have 17 grandchildren: Mildred, John B., and Janet Christie Knox; Harriet Y., Martha B., Lina, Jane, Louis, Jr., and Charles Newman; Carl H., Mary B., and Arthur M. Schutz; Elizabeth, John Smart and Carl H. Bryant; G. B. and William Bachman.

Mildred Knox married Rolla Bascomb Moore, of Berkeley, Cal. and has one child, Rollin Bascomb, Jr., the great grandchild of Dr. and Mrs. Bryant.

Judge Thomas Austin Smart, father of Mrs. John Bryant, was born in Campbell County, Va., Nov. 16, 1806, and died Sept. 18, 1879. He came to Missouri in 1836 and located in Kansas City, when it was but a frontier village. He located on a plot of ground which is now the intersection of Walnut and Eleventh streets and owned a farm there, the boundaries of which extended beyond McGee street. He served two years as a member of the Missouri Legislature and also served as county judge. He married Harriet Louise Thompson, a native of Kentucky who died of cholera in 1849. Their children were: Mrs. Amanda Caroline Graves, wife of E. P. Graves, who died May 6, 1919, and she died Aug. 23, 1919; Mrs. Eliza Ann Ridge, wife of Dr. I. M. Ridge, both of whom are deceased; Martha died at the age of 15 years; George Washington and William Smart died in infancy; Oliver P., Thomas Gilpin and Mary Smart died in infancy; Mrs. Harriet Matilda Smart Bryant, of this review. The children of Dr. I. M. and Eliza Ann Ridge are: William and Thomas Smart Ridge, Kansas City, Mo.; and Mrs. Robert E. Lakeman, deceased.

Judge Smart was a charter member and an elder of the First Chris-



tian Church of Kansas City. His wife was a charter member of the Independence Christian church.

For the past 60 years, Dr. John Bryant has been an active member of the Christian church of Independence. For the past six years he has been an elder of the church prior to this, having served as deacon of his church. Dr. Bryant was one of the heaviest contributors to the building of the Christian church of his home city. Mrs. Bryant became a member of the church in Kansas City, later uniting with the Independence church, and she has been a member of this denomination for 50 years.

**Stanley and Henry J. Hifner**, farmers and dairymen, living on the Lexington road, five miles northeast of Independence, are the sons of J. D. and Fidelia (Odell) Hifner, the latter of whom died in 1905.

J. D. Hifner, the father, was born in Clay County, Missouri, Dec. 30, 1867, and is the son of George Henry Hifner, of Atherton, Mo. George Henry Hifner was born in Jessamine County, Kentucky, in 1833, and is a son of William and Margaret (Funk) Hifner. William Hifner came from Maryland to Kentucky with his father, Peter Hifner. William Hifner died in Jessamine County, Kentucky, in 1836. His wife died at the age of 86 years. George Henry Hifner came to Missouri when 24 years of age, and followed his trade of wagon maker, which he had begun learning when 17 years old. He located near Liberty, Clay County, Missouri, and followed farming until the outbreak of the Civil War. He enlisted in 1861 under Capt. William Price, Colonel Thornton's regiment, Gen. Sterling Price's division, and served until he was captured by the Federals, in August, 1862, when he was placed in prison at St. Louis. He was released Dec. 29, 1862, and embarked in the produce business at Missouri City, where he remained until 1870. He then came to Jackson County, and settled on his farm of 187 acres, near Atherton. He increased his holdings to 871 acres, which he divided among his five children in 1885, giving each child a farm, excepting a considerable acreage which he kept for his younger children. He was married in 1855 to Eliza J. Horine, of Jessamine County, Kentucky, a daughter of David Horine. The children born to this marriage are as follow: John C. B. Hifner, Atherton, Mo.; Lizzie, at home; Ella, wife of Ed. Gallagher, Kansas City, Mo.; Margaret, wife of James Beets; W. D. Hifner, Independence, Mo.; James D., a farmer living near Lees Summit; Boswell, at home.

James D. Hifner was born Dec. 30, 1867. After the death of his first wife, in 1905, he married Martha Chiles, who reared the children. The children are as follow: Gilbert, Stanley, Henry and Helen.

Gilbert Hifner enlisted in the United States navy in 1917 and from Aug. 4, 1918, to Nov. 11, 1919, was on duty in France. He was born in 1895, and was trained at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. He was with the United States S. S. Bridgeport at Brest, France, serving as chief yeoman aboard this vessel.

Stanley Hifner was born on the Blue Springs road, Sept. 29, 1896, and was educated in the public schools of Independence, Mo.

Henry Hifner was born at Atherton, Mo., in December, 1901, and is in partnership with his brother, Stanley, in the farming operations.

Helen Hifner lives with her parents at Lees Summit, Mo.

Stanley and Henry Hifner are farming 214 acres of land on the Lexington road, and have harvested during the past season, 15 acres of alfalfa, 65 acres of wheat, and 15 acres of corn, the balance of their acreage being in pasture.

The Hifner Brothers raise pure-bred Duroc-Jersey hogs, and usually have a drove of 100 animals on the place. They maintain a herd of 15 head of Holsteins, and operate a dairy with this herd. Since taking possession of their farm they have added some substantial improvements to the place and are making a success of their farming and stock raising venture.

**Ed. E. Fender**, proprietor of Old Colonial Home Farm, which consists of 52 acres, in Blue township, was born in Lee County, Illinois, May 16, 1869. He is a son of Absalom and America (Myers) Fender, both of whom were born and reared in Lee County, Illinois. Mrs. Fender was born March 9, 1847, and is now living at Holden, Mo. She was married in 1866. Absalom Fender was born in Lee County Feb. 16, 1844, and died at Goodland, Kan., in 1904. For 19 years prior to his death he had made his home in western Kansas, and had taken up a homestead near Goodland. The children born to Absalom and America Fender are as follow: J. L. Fender, Holden, Mo.; Ed. E., of this review; Gay, wife of E. J. Scott, McCook, Neb.; Phoebe, wife of Charles Neff, Kingsville, Mo.; Lillie, wife of Warren Middleton Canarado, Kan.; Roy, died at Goodland, Kan., at the age of 21 years; Fred E., lives at Independence, Mo.; Homer, was killed by a street car in Los Angeles in 1919; Earl lives at Holden, Mo.; Iva is the wife of George Dillon, Holden, Mo.

Absalom Fender was a son of Solomon Fender, an early pioneer of Lee County, Illinois. Mrs. Fender's father settled in Lee County prior to the Black Hawk War in 1832.





"CEDAR CREST FARM" AND JERSEY HERD, INDEPENDENCE, MO., OWNED  
BY MAJOR ROBERT W. BARR.





He resigned from the United States army in 1913 but in September, 1917, when the United States had entered the World War he enlisted as a captain and in November of the same year he was promoted to major of the 342nd Field Artillery and was stationed at Camp Funston. Just before his regiment sailed for France he was taken ill with pneumonia and was in the military hospital for 20 months, the dread disease causing the loss of his right lung. He was honorably discharged from the service in November, 1918. Upon his return from the hospital he located in Jackson County on Cedar Crest farm, his present home place, which he had purchased in 1915. This fine farm comprises 80 acres located four and a half miles northeast of Independence on the Lexington road and is one of the finest improved tracts in Jackson County. Mr. Barr has 54 head of registered Jersey cows. His herd leader is a grandson of "Golden Ferns Noble", a \$25,000 bull owned by William Proctor of New York City.

Mr. Barr was married in 1910 at West Point, N. Y., to Miss Mary Emily Glasgow, of Clinton, Mo., a daughter of Samuel and Emily (Walker) Glasgow, both of whom are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Barr have a daughter, Virginia, born at Fort Baker, Cal., in 1911.

Major Barr is a Knights Templar Mason and a member of the Mystic Shrine at Kansas City, Mo. He is a member of the Presbyterian church.

H. E. Barclay, cashier of the Atherton State Bank, Atherton, Mo., was born in Boone County, Missouri, Feb. 2, 1885. He is a son of A. C. and Anna W. (Everman) Barclay, both of whom are now living in Boone County.

Mr. Barclay was educated in the Boone County public and high schools and the Central Business College of Sedalia. For four years, following his graduation from business college, he was in the employ of the Fidelity Trust Company of Kansas City, Mo. Prior to locating in Atherton, he organized the Virgil State Bank, at Virgil, Kan., and was in charge of that bank for one year previous to coming to Atherton, where he assisted in the organization of the Atherton State Bank, and became cashier of this flourishing institution.

Mr. Barclay was married Aug. 22, 1912, to Miss Mary Murray, of Kansas City, a daughter of Mrs. Emma Murray. Besides his banking connections, Mr. Barclay is secretary and treasurer of the Atherton Elevator Company, which is owned by local parties and was incorporated in March, 1918, with a capital of \$10,000. The president of this concern is Murt Sullivan. The directors are: H. E. Barclay, Murt Sullivan, John Mueller, J. W. Adams, Claude Giffin, Fred Stewart, J. B. Lynch and Boyd Beets.

The capacity of the elevators is 13,000 bushels, and an extensive grain business is conducted.

The Atherton State Bank, Atherton, Mo., was organized Sept. 21, 1915, with a capital stock of \$10,000. The surplus was \$1,000 at the time of organization. The officers at the time of the organization were: President, J. B. Lynch; vice-president, Boyd Beets; cashier, H. C. Barclay; directors, J. B. Lynch, Boyd Beets, H. E. Barclay, W. C. Adams, J. R. Jones, Claude Giffin and Murt Sullivan. The directorate is the same with the exception that J. W. Adams and John Mùeller have succeeded W. C. Adams and J. R. Jones, and Fred Stewart succeeds Boyd Beets.

The capital stock of the bank is \$10,000, with a surplus and undivided profits of \$3,500. The deposits will exceed \$70,000, figures which show a healthy and steady growth of the bank during its existence.

**Lind and J. C. Stockwood, The Stockwood Tire Company.**—An account of the career of Lind and J. C. Stockwood, and the success of the Stockwood Tire Company, of Independence, furnishes ample evidence that opportunity in America is not dead, and proves beyond doubt that where new comers to this country are ambitious and energetic, they can succeed. Both Lind and J. C. Stockwood came to America with no knowledge of our language, and unfamiliar with our customs, yet, in a few short years of residence in this country, they have made a splendid success in business and are rapidly forging to the front.

The main office of the Stockwood Tire Company, which does a general retail and wholesale tire business, is located at 2301 Grand avenue, Kansas City. This plant is the wholesale distributing point for the concern which handles the Barney Oldfield Tire in Missouri. The company has a branch store at Excelsior Springs, and at Lees Summit. Their Independence retail store is located at 310 and 312 West Maple street. Lind Stockwood is manager of the local store, and J. C. Stockwood is manager of the Kansas City wholesale house.

J. C. and Lind Stockwood were born in Denmark, the former having been born in 1892, and the latter in 1889. They are the sons of J. C. Stockwood, who resides in Denmark. They have two sisters, Mary and Anna Stockwood. Lind Stockwood emigrated from Denmark to America in September, 1907. When he landed in New York he had but \$10.00. His first employment was on a farm, where he remained one and a half years, and in the meantime learned the English language. He was then employed in railroad work for one year, after which he was in the employ of a rubber manufacturing concern at Worcester, Mass., where he learned



the rubber business. In 1909 his brother, J. C. Stockwood, crossed the ocean and Lind met him at New York, and turned over to him his job in the rubber factory, and then came to Kansas City, Mo. His first work here was as locomotive fireman on the Rock Island railroad. He later entered the employ of the Norton Tire Company in Kansas City. His brother, J. C., came on from the East and was employed by the same concern. In 1916 Stockwood Brothers purchased the A. J. Stevens stock of tires at 215 West Maple. In April, 1917, they moved to their present location, 310-312 West Maple street, where they have a store room 40x100 feet. This firm was the first to handle truck tires in Independence. In July, 1917, they opened the Lees Summit store, with J. W. Moffatt as manager. In April, 1919, the Excelsior Springs and the Kansas City stores were established, with J. C. Stockwood as manager at Kansas City, and A. C. Martenson as manager at Excelsior Springs.

J. C. Stockwood married Alma Brems, a native of Denmark and makes his home in Kansas City. They have two children: Robert and Lillian.

When Lind and J. C. Stockwood came to this country their unfamiliarity with our language was such that neither could order a meal intelligently. The fact that they have learned our language and become familiar with American customs in a few years and have established themselves in a flourishing business shows the mettle of which they are made. Both have been naturalized since coming to America.

**John Mueller**, merchant, Atherton, Mo., was born in Germany in 1872. He is a son of Felix and Anna Marie (Steinhilber) Mueller, the former of whom was drowned while engaged in the government mail service in Germany in 1886. His widow, accompanied by her son, John, of this review, came to America in 1887, and located in Kansas City. For 11 years following her advent in Kansas City she washed dishes in a hotel at \$15 per month. Mrs. Mueller is now 74 years of age, and still makes her home in Kansas City.

John Mueller learned the trade of butcher and was in the employ of the Weber Meat Markets and the Cudahy Packing Company, of Kansas City, for several years. He then started a small meat market at Fourteenth and Cherry streets, following which he engaged in huckstering and buying calves for a year. He located at Atherton in 1900, opening up a meat market. He later added a stock of groceries and drygoods, and also conducts a hardware store, which is situated in a building 28x60 feet, across the street from his main store. He carried a stock of goods valued at \$10,000, and is doing a splendid business.

Mr. Mueller was married Dec. 26, 1899, to Emily Sturhahn, a native of Quincy, Ill. Seven children have been born to this marriage: Anna, Lola and Mayola twins, Felix, Margaret, George and John.

Besides his stores, Mr. Mueller is owner of 336 acres of land, rich bottom soil, 36 acres of which adjoins the town of Atherton. He is a director of the Atherton State Bank, and is one of the leading citizens of this section of Jackson County.

**Jo L. Hill.**—Three generations of the Hill family have resided on the Hill farm in Blue township, a part of which was entered by Adam Hill, grandfather of the present owner of the place, over 80 years ago. Jo L. Hill, of this review, was born on the Hill farm Oct. 2, 1871. He is a son of William Moberly Hill, who was born on the same farm July 6, 1836, and was a son of Adam Hill, who came from Kentucky to Jackson County in 1833, purchased the farm, and also entered 80 acres of government land in Blue township. Adam Hill died on the place in 1886, at the age of 86 years, and his remains are interred in the Hill cemetery.

Adam Hill was a blacksmith, and followed his trade in this county. The old Independence and Westport landing road ran along the southeast side of his farm. During the forties he maintained a race track on his farm, and kept and bred some fast race horses. Many horse owners brought their racing stock to his track to try them out. A son, Curtis Hill, served with Gen. Joe Shelby in the Confederate Army. He enlisted when 18 years of age, and fought in many battles during the war. Once he was asked by General Shelby which of the many engagements he liked the best. He replied promptly, "I liked the one which we fought on the banks of the Mississippi River, with the Union soldiers on the other side of the water, which was so wide that the guns of neither army could reach the enemy on either side."

After the close of the war, Curtis Hill engaged in freighting across the plains. Upon the return trip of one of his expeditions, Indians attacked the train at the Upper Cimarron country or crossing, and he and a Frenchman were killed. His body was later brought home by Joseph Connelly and buried in the Hill cemetery.

William Moberly Hill was reared on the home farm and became owner of 300 acres of land, 76 acres of which is now a part of the Mount Washington cemetery. When he was a pupil in the Rock Creek school, taught by the father of W. Z. Hickman, author of this history, he took part in the annual ducking, a custom which prevailed in the country school districts of those days. The boys of the school took the teacher down to a hole cut



in the ice of a nearby creek, and ducked him in order to compel him to grant them more than one day as a holiday at Christmas time.

William Moberly Hill was a slave owner at the time of the outbreak of the Civil War. He took his slaves and went to Texas, and did not return until 1865. He passed through Lone Jack on the day following the raid of the Red Legs from Kansas, and found a lone storekeeper mourning the loss of his entire stock of goods. Upon his return to Jackson County he was accompanied by his father and his brother, Curtis Hill. He developed a fine farm and prospered. A large orchard which he planted in 1896 is now in good bearing condition. He was married to Ann Elizabeth Gossett, who was born in Kentucky in 1851, and accompanied her parents to Jackson County in 1866, they settling on the farm now owned by Carson Brothers. She died Nov. 1, 1880. The children born to William Moberly and Ann Elizabeth Hill are: Curtis, Kansas City, Mo.; Jo L., subject of this sketch; Jacob Gossett Hill, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Fannie B. Abston, Englewood; Adam, a dairyman on part of the home place; Dr. William Hickman, formerly a member of the United States Medical Corps at Camp Funston, and now stationed at Camp Upton, N. Y.; Sanford died in infancy.

Jo L. Hill was educated in the public schools and Woodland College, and studied for one year in the State University at Columbia. The years intervening until he settled down to farming were spent in traveling. One trip which he took to Alaska through British Columbia took five months. He went down the Yukon River to Dawson, and thence to the mouth of the great river. The year following was spent in mining in Colorado, after which he came home to the farm.

Mr. Hill was married in 1908 to Miss Bessie G. Duncan, of Blue township, a daughter of J. T. and Margaret (Brown) Duncan, of Independence, Mo. The children of the Duncan family are as follow: Mrs. Blanche Oliver, of Raytown; Sanford S., Blue Spring, Mo.; E. C. Duncan, Grain Val-  
lew, Mo.; Ernest J., Independence, Mo.; Olan, Independence, Mo.; W. F., James I., Independence, Mo., and Mrs. Jo L. Hill.

**Asa K. Browning**, real estate and loans, rooms Nos. 1 and 2, Battery Block, Independence, was born in Pendleton County, Ky., July 21, 1870 and is a son of William T. and Eliza J. Miller Browning, both of whom are deceased.

William T. Browning was born in Pendleton County, Ky., in 1830, and died in Jackson County, near Raytown in 1914. During the Civil War he served as a private soldier in Company I, 5th Kentucky Infantry, Confederate Army, and took part in 26 hard fought battles and over 70 skirmishes



during his term of service. He was married in Kentucky to Eliza J. Miller who was born in 1836 and died in 1908. He came to Jackson County in March, 1874, and operated a farm in Prairie township, near Lees Summit, for 20 years. He then sold his farm and purchased another place near Raytown where he died. The children born to William T. and Eliza J. Browning are as follow: C. A. Browning, Greenwood, Mo.; H. O. Browning, Kingsville, Mo.; Mrs. Talitha F. Thompson, Blue Springs, Mo.; E. H. Browning, Rushville, Mo.; Joseph Browning, Raytown; Asa K., of this sketch; Thornton, Lees Summit, Mo.; Charles, Blue Springs, Mo.; Cora Browning, Raytown; Early Browning died in September, 1897, at the age of 31 years.

For several years after locating here, W. T. Browning was engaged in the wholesale tobacco business. He purchased tobacco in quantities at Lees Summit and shipped it in car lots to Louisville and Cincinnati. His brother, O. N. Browning, of Lees Summit was at one time the largest loose leaf tobacco dealer in the United States.

At the time of Mrs. Brownings death in 1908, Mr. and Mrs. Browning had 29 grand children and five great grand children. This estimable couple had lived together for 56 years and had lived to see all of their children grow to maturity. Nine of these children are living at the present time. William T. Browning took an unusually active part in church and religious work and lived according to his creed. He was kind and obliging and strictly honest in all of his business dealings and enjoyed the respect and esteem of all who knew him. His home was a very hospitable one and his door was always open, a warm welcome being always given to both friend and stranger.

Until he attained the age of 30 years, Asa K. Browning followed the vocation of farmer and stockman. For two years, he was employed in the Kansas City stock yards. In 1902 he opened his real estate office in Independence in partnership with M. L. Hall, now deceased. For six years following Mr. Hall's death the firm was known as Browning and Galloway. For the past four years, Mr. Browning has been in business on his own account with offices in rooms 1 and 2, of the Battery Block. He specializes in farm lands and handles loans on real estate and farms.

Mr. Browning was married April 28, 1897 to Miss Ella St. Clair, a daughter of E. P. and Mary A. (Nowlin) St. Clair, the former of whom died in 1895 and his remains are buried in the St. Clair family cemetery. Mrs. St. Clair resides in Independence and is 77 years of age. E. P. and Mary A. St. Clair were parents of the following children: H. L. St. Clair, Oak

Grove, Mo.; Mrs. Ella Browning of this review; and G. M. St. Clair, Kansas City, Mo.

Mr. and Mrs. Browning have a very pleasant home at 916 South Main street. They are members of the Independence Christian church. They have good and just right to be proud of the record of members of the family on both sides who served in the World War. Six nephews saw service in the war, as follow: Chris D. Browning was a member of the 39th Signal Corps and later with the American Relief Association. James L. Browning was with the 356th Infantry, 89th Division and participated in the St. Mihiel drive. Willie H. Browning and Charles R. Browning served in the United States navy. Irving K. Browning was a lieutenant in the Aviation Corps. Haston St. Clair served with the 110th Engineer Corps, 35th Division.

**Geo. A. Gould.**—The real estate, loan and insurance business operated under the name of Geo. A. Gould and Company in the Battery Block, Independence, Mo. was first established in April, 1908, and conducted under the firm name of Gould, Burdick and Company. In July, 1909, Mr. Gould purchased the interest of Mr. Burdick and the name of the concern was changed to Geo. A. Gould and Company two years later. Oct. 1, 1919, J. M. Gould, a son of Geo. A. Gould, became a member of the firm which is doing an extensive business.

Geo. A. Gould was born in Becker County, Minn., Aug. 25, 1873. He was reared in Ottertail County, Minn. and educated in the public schools. In 1887 he came to Jackson County with his parents and here finished his schooling. He then pursued a course in general business. For 11 years he was in the employ of the Parsons Hawkeye Feeder Company, working in the factory and as traveling salesman on the road in Missouri and Kansas.

Mr. Gould was married Dec. 29, 1897 to Miss Winifred McIntyre of Beloit, Mitchell County, Kan. She is a daughter of D. M. and Lodema S. McIntyre, both of whom are residing in Independence. Mr. McIntyre is a member of the firm of Geo. A. Gould and Company. Mr. and Mrs. Gould have seven children: J. M. Gould, educated in the public schools and Central Business College of Kansas City, and now a member of the firm; Faye G., stenographer for R. B. Jones and Company, Kansas City, resides at home; Max W., a student in Central Business College, Kansas City; Fern H., in Independence High School; Roy H., Paul M., Eva May, in the public schools. Blanche R. Gould died in January, 1909.

Geo. A. Gould is a son of Clayton G. and Ellen D. (Sherman) Gould, the former of whom was a native of New York. He was a son of George



and Eleanor Gould who were pioneer settlers in Ottertail County, Minn., developed a farm in that county and died at Silver Lake, Ottertail County. Clayton G. Gould developed a farm there, sold it in 1887 and came to Jackson County, settling in Independence on West Sea avenue, where he lived for some years. He then built a home on Fuller street, sold it later and built a home at 308 S. Grand, sold this place and bought another at 1027 West Waldo where he is now residing. He is over 70 years of age, active and well preserved. Mrs. Gould was born in Fremont County, Iowa, and is past 68 years of age. Their children were: Mrs. M. T. William, 1313 West Van Horn Road; Herbert A., 579 Brookside avenue, Mt. Washington; Geo. A. Gould, of this review; Minnie D. died at the age of 21 years. Geo. A. Gould and family reside at 721 West Waldo, where they have a fine home purchased of the Rufus Wilson estate.

Mr. Gould has served as city councilman from the fourth ward, having been elected on an independent ticket, during a "wet and dry fight," campaigning only eight days on a "dry" platform.

**Thomas H. Swope.**—"Esperanza," the home of "Anxiety Herefords," consisting of 300 acres, on the Lexington road, in Blue township, a few miles northeast of Independence, owned and operated by Thomas H. Swope, is one of the finest country estates in this section of Missouri—a locality noted for its fine homes and farms. Mr. Swope purchased the farm in 1912, from his mother, Mrs. Margaret C. Swope, and at once placed under the way the erection of the splendid improvements which have made the farm a show place in Jackson County. Mr. Swope began the breeding of pure-bred Hereford cattle in 1917, and his success in the venture is ample evidence that he has made a thorough study of the production of fine cattle. He has 30 head of registered Hereford cattle. "Bright Anxiety," the leader of his herd, was purchased of Gudgell and Simpson, of Independence. "Bright Anxiety" was sired by "Bright Stanway," whose owner has refused to set a price on him. Mr. Swope has another herd bull called "Beau Pallidan," 18 months old, which he raised on his farm.

All of the existing improvements on "Esperanza" farm have been placed there by the proprietor. The fine, large, modern residence is built of native stone, and the grounds are crossed by concrete walks and driveways. One large, stucco barn, two frame barns and other well-built structures are placed at the rear of the residence. The arrangement of the farm buildings are such as to bring commendation from the observer.

The residence and buildings are supplied with pure spring water,







ESPERANZA STOCK FARM OWNED BY THOMAS H. SWOPE





Thos H. Wolfe





pumped by Mr. Swope's own water plant. The spring is located on the northern slope of the farm property, and the pressure obtained will exceed 125 pounds. The entire 300 acres of the Swope farm is in blue grass and alfalfa.

Thomas H. Swope was born in Woodford County, Ky., Aug. 23, 1882, and was reared in the city of Independence. His father, the late Logan O. Swope, was born in Lincoln County, Ky., in 1847, and died in Independence, Feb. 23, 1900. He came from Kentucky to Jackson County about 1854, was here married to Margaret Chrisman, when he had attained his majority. After some years of residence in this county he returned to Kentucky, where Thomas H. Swope was born. In October, 1882, he returned to Jackson County, and made a permanent home in Independence. During his residence in this county he was extensively engaged in farming and stock raising, and had large land interests in the county. He was a breeder of Shorthorn and Jersey cattle, and did much toward bettering the herds throughout this section of Missouri, by the introduction of pure-bred cattle. He was a brother of the late Thomas E. Swope, millionaire of Kansas City, whose philanthropic gift of Swope Park to the city will make his name remembered for all time by the citizens of his home city.

To Logan O. and Margaret (Chrisman) Swope were born the following children: William Chrisman Swope, deceased; Frances, wife of B. C. Hyde, Kansas City, Mo.; Thomas H. Swope, of this review; Lucy Lee, wife of W. B. Bryan, Los Angeles, Calif.; Margaret, wife of T. T. Miller, Los Angeles, Calif.; Stella, and Sarah Swope, deceased.

The mother of the foregoing children now makes her home in New York. She was born in Independence, and is a daughter of the late William Chrisman, of Independence.

William Chrisman was born in Kentucky, Nov. 23, 1822. He was descended from an old American family of Virginia ancestry. His paternal grandfather was Abram Chrisman, who was born and reared in Virginia, and became a pioneer in Kentucky, where he followed farming and became wealthy. Joseph Chrisman, father of William Chrisman, was born in Rockingham County, Va., in October, 1800. He was taken to Kentucky by his parents and was there reared to young manhood. He married Eleanor Soper, native of Maryland, and member of an old American family. In later years, Joseph Chrisman moved from Kentucky to a farm near Liberty, Mo., and there spent his remaining years. Joseph and Eleanor Chrisman were the parents of children as follow: William; John, died in

Kansas City; Joseph, died in De Kalk County, Mo.; Amanda, wife of Dr. Ben Mitchell, Clay County, Mo. The education of William Chrisman was obtained in private schools, the Georgetown, Ky., College, and in Center College, of Danville, Ky. He graduated from Center College, in 1846, with the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts. He then studied law and was admitted to practice in 1847.

May 10, 1848, Mr. Chrisman was married to Lucie A. Lee, of Danville, Ky. She was born in 1828, and was descended from the Lee family of Virginia. Soon after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Chrisman started for Missouri, and located in Independence. Mr. Chrisman immediately began the practice of his profession, and had a series of partners, among them being Abram Comings, Samuel H. Woodson, Russell Hicks, and Samuel L. Sawyer, all of whom served on the bench. In 1857 he engaged in banking and organized the Independence Savings Association, which was later merged into the banking house of Stone, McCoy & Company, later becoming Stone, Sawyer & Company, and finally becoming the Chrisman-Sawyer Banking Company, which is one of the leading banking concerns of the county at the present time. He was also an organizer and a director of the First National Bank, now extinct, and was a stockholder of the National Bank of Commerce and the Midland National Bank of Kansas City. He was the leader in the organization of the Kansas City Ladies College of Independence. In 1888, Mr. Chrisman suffered a stroke of paralysis, and after that time made his home with his son, George Lee Chrisman, on his large farm south of the city. Mrs. Chrisman died in February, 1889. The children of the family were: George Lee Chrisman, deceased; James, died while a student in Fulton College; Margaret, widow of Logan O. Swope. William Chrisman died in 1898. He was a ruling elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Independence, and was active in religious affairs.

Mr. Chrisman was a Democrat, but never sought political preferment. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention held in 1875, which gave to the State of Missouri its present constitution. He was liberal in his donations to public enterprises, kind and liberal to the poor, no call for charity of a worthy nature ever going unheeded by him. His daughter, Mrs. Margaret Swope, gave to the city of Independence the land upon which the William Chrisman High School is built, and the school was named in his honor.

Thomas H. Swope was married in 1906 to Miss Maud Moseley, of Independence, Mo., a daughter of the late William J. Moseley. Her mother,



Mrs. Julia Moseley, nee Yellman, lives in Independence. Five children have been born to Thomas H. and Maud Swope, as follow: Maude Louise, Julia, Thomas H., Jr., Margaret, and Lucy Lee.

Mr. Swope has other extensive interests besides his farm holdings, but his greatest interest is manifested in his fine stock farm. His conception and knowledge of the breeding of fine stock is intelligent and it is evident that he understands the business in which he is engaged. Men of affairs and means who are endeavoring to raise the standard of stock in the country, such as Mr. Swope, are conferring a distinct benefit upon the community and country at large.

He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of Virginia City, Mont.

**Major John L. Miles**, of the Miles-Bostian Motor and Tire Company, Independence, Mo., was born in Clay County, Tenn., Feb. 26, 1878. He is a son of John J. and Mary B. (Browning) Miles, both of whom were reared in Tennessee. John J. Miles was a son of Geo. Miles a native of Virginia, who was a pioneer in Tennessee. John J. Miles died in 1859, and his widow resides at 134 East Elm street, Independence. She came to Independence with her family in 1892. The children of the Miles family are as follow: George W., Independence; Robert, Clay County, Tenn.; Mrs. Mattie Leonard, Victoria, La.; John L., of this sketch.

After leaving school, John L. Miles was employed in the grocery business and other mercantile lines and also served as city mail carrier for 12 years in Independence.

In July, 1897, he enlisted in Company F, 3rd Missouri Regiment of the National Guard, and was with his regiment in the Spanish-American War, being stationed at Camp Alger, Va. He filled various offices in the company and worked his way upward from private to a first lieutenancy. He was then transferred to Battery C, First Battalion of Missouri Field Artillery and was commissioned captain of this battery, which he commanded on the Mexican border in 1916. He was later made major of field artillery which was later designated by the war department as the 129th Field Artillery. Major Miles had command of the first battalion of the 129th Field Artillery during the regiment's service on the front in France, during the World War. He was overseas for a period of 11 months and was stationed in the Vosges Mountains, and served at St. Mihiel, the Argonne Forest and on the Verdun Sector and Conflans Offensive. He returned to the United States April 20, 1919 and was mustered out of the service June 22, 1919.

The first battalion of the 129th Field Artillery was the farthest ad-

vanced artillery unit of the 35th Division, having advanced to Charpentry, France. They were at that place under constant shell fire for five days and lost a total of 84 men and 89 horses. Major Miles has nothing but words of praise for the men under his command and states that they were always willing, ready and eager to advance toward the enemy.

June 22, 1919, Major Miles returned to his home city and Oct. 1, 1919, he formed a partnership with Capt. Kenneth V. Bostian, who served with him in France and opened up their present business. The new firm is making good and are doing a thriving business.

Major John L. Miles is Post Commander of Tirey J. Ford Post of the American Legion, Independence. This Post was organized in July, 1919, with 15 charter members and the membership has now grown to over 250. The Post meets in the Elks Club Rooms on Tuesday night of each week.

**William Russell Allen.**—Allen's Phonograph Parlor, at the corner of Spring and Maple streets, Independence, Mo., is the only exclusive phonograph house in the city and was founded by William Russell Allen May 21, 1919. Mr. Allen carries a line of Colonial phonographs, Columbia Grafonolas and Columbia records. This concern has had an excellent business since its beginning and has many satisfied patrons.

William R. Allen was born July 31, 1898, in Brookfield, Mo. He is a son of Fountain Riddell and Iva Dell (Cloyd) Allen, the former of whom is a native of Brookfield and the latter of Salisbury, Mo. Charles Edward Allen, grandfather of W. R. Allen, was a native of Kentucky and a pioneer of Charitan County, Mo. The Allens reside at 310 N. Delaware street. F. R. Allen is engaged in the real estate business with offices in the Battery Block.

When Mr. Allen was pursuing his third year's study in the Independence High School, he harkened to the call of his country when war was declared against Germany and enlisted in the United States Navy April 14, 1917. After a period of training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station he was sent to Norfolk, Va., and assigned to the U. S. Transport Antigone. He served on this ship until his honorable discharge from the service in March, 1919. During his period of service, extending over nearly two years he made ten trips across the Atlantic.

Mr. Allen is treasurer of Tirey J. Ford Post, No. 21, of the American Legion and is a charter member of this organization. Although one of the youngest business men of the city he is a hustler and is fast building up a profitable business.



**William Richard Harcourt**, proprietor of the Harcourt Clothing Company, 109 West Lexington street, on the south side of the Court House Square, Independence, Mo., was born in County Down, Ireland, Oct. 4, 1888, and is a son of Joseph and Margaret (Little) Harcourt, who lived all of their lives in County Down, Ireland, the former dying in 1891, and the latter in 1917.

Mr. Harcourt was educated in Warrenpoint, County Down, Ireland, in an academical institution of that city and began his career as a clerk in the stores of his native country prior to immigrating to America in 1906. He landed at Montreal, Canada, in that year and eventually found his way to Omaha, Neb., where he was connected with the Nebraska Clothing Company and the King-Swanson Company until 1914. In that year he went to North Platte, Nebraska, and was engaged in the clothing business in that city until 1919.

In 1917, Mr. Harcourt enlisted in the Aviation Corps of the National Army and was sent to Fort Omaha and stationed there with the First Flying Cadet Company until his honorable discharge from the service in November, 1918.

After his discharge from the army he returned to North Platte and continued in business there until March, 1919, when he sold his store to the Edwards Reynolds Company and came to Independence and established his present store. The Harcourt Clothing Company is one of the best stocked stores of its kind in Independence. The stock of men's clothing, hats and wearables for men and boys is first class and complete in every particular, and Mr. Harcourt has enjoyed an excellent business from the start, the concern being recognized as one of the solid and thriving institutions of the city.

Mr. Harcourt was married Nov. 22, 1917, to Miss Ruth Jensen, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, a daughter of L. P. Jensen, of that city.

**Captain Kenneth V. Bostian**, member of the Miles-Bostian Motor and Tire Company, Independence, Mo., was born in Independence and is a son of William and Margaret (Hinters) Bostian, the former of whom is proprietor of the Bostian Confectionery, and served for a number of years as postmaster of Independence.

Kenneth V. Bostian graduated from Independence High School in 1912 and enlisted in the Missouri National Guards in 1911, receiving an honorable discharge from the State service in 1914. He re-enlisted July 3, 1915, and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the National Guard in November, 1915. He was promoted to a first lieutenant in July, 1917, and com-



missioned a captain in October, 1918, the latter commission being awarded while he was in the Federal service. He was called by the Federal government for service on the Mexican border in June, 1916 and served on the border until Dec. 22, 1916. In September, 1917, he went to Camp Doniphan and left the camp for overseas service in France in May, 1918, with the 129th Field Artillery, 35th Division. He was in the reserve at St. Mihiel and served in the battle of the Argonne Forest. Prior to this he had been stationed in the Vosges Mountain sector. October 10, 1918, he was detailed on instruction duty at the American Field Artillery School at Valdahon, France, and was on duty at the school until May 24, 1919, at which time he received orders to return to the United States. Captain Bostian arrived at New York June 19, 1919, and received his honorable discharge from the service July 22, 1919.

Oct. 1, 1919 Captain Bostian formed a partnership with Major John L. Miles and established the Miles-Bostian Motor and Tire Company. This firm sells the Nash automobile and four different makes of excellent tires and are making a specialty of rebuilding worn tires.

Captain Bostian was married Aug. 4, 1917 to Miss Mary Salisbury of Independence, a daughter of Mark and Mary (McDearmon) Sallsbury of Kansas City, Mo. The Bostian family residence is at 602 North Delaware street.

Capt. Bostian is a member of Tirey J. Ford Post, American Legion, Independence, and is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Loyal Order of Moose.

**Captain Spencer Salisbury**, veteran of the World War, residing in Independence, Mo., has the distinction of being the only officer to raise or recruit his own company for service in the war when the United States declared war against Germany. He was born in Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 17, 1887, and is a son of Mark and Mary (McDearmon) Salisbury, of Kansas City.

After attending the public schools of Kansas City, Spencer Salisbury served for six years as constable of Blue township. In 1904 he enlisted in Company F, Third Regiment of Missouri National Guard and in 1914, he changed service from the infantry to field artillery. In 1916 he was sent with his command to the Mexican border in the Federal service and upon his return from the board he had his commission as first lieutenant, after having filled every position in his company below the captaincy excepting that of cook or bugler. War having been declared against Germany in April, 1917, Captain Salisbury set about to recruit a company of

field artillery and was elected captain of this company which was designated as Battery E, 129th Field Artillery. His company was mustered into the service in August, 1917 and was sent to Camp Doniphan for thorough training. In April, 1918, they were sent overseas with the 35th Division. Captain Salisbury and his men saw much active and arduous service in the Meuse region, the St. Mihiel sector, the Argonne Forest and Verdun. The brigade was taken out of the 35th Division in October, 1918 and made a part of the 81st Division and was on the firing line when the armistice went into effect. Capt. Salisbury remained in France until April, 1919, on duty in the Inspector General's department, and returned to the United States Sept. 26, 1919, being mustered out of the service at Camp Dodge, Iowa. Captain Salisbury raised the personnel of his battery in 17 days, recruiting his company from men in Independence, Kansas City, and Jackson County.

Captain Salisbury was married Feb. 20, 1914, to Miss Laura Workman, of Independence, Mo., a daughter of J. A. and Mary Workman of this city. One daughter has been born to this marriage, Mary Pearl Salisbury.

Captain Salisbury is a member of Tirey J. Ford Post, No. 21, Independence, Mo.

**Sergeant R. Powell Cook**, of the firm of Cook and Sermon, groceries and meats, Independence, Mo., was born in Independence, Jan. 9, 1894, and is a son of Charles H. and Cora (Howerton) Cook, both of whom were natives of Virginia, and migrated from their native State to Missouri in 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Cook now reside at 211 West Farmer street of this city. Their children are: Mrs. H. N. Beatty, Independence, Mo.; Charles H., Jr., Blue Springs, Mo.; Cora May Cook, Independence; and Sergeant R. Powell Cook of this review.

Sergeant Cook enlisted in Headquarters Company of field artillery April 29, 1917, was transferred to Battery E, 129th Field Artillery when the company was organized. He entered the National service Aug. 5, 1917 and on Sept. 26th. was sent to Fort Sill, Okla., for intensive training. From Fort Sill, his command was transferred to Camp Mills, Long Island and on May 10, 1918, arrived in Liverpool, England. After a six days stay and rest at Liverpool they were sent to France with the 35th Division. Sept. 4, 1918 Corporal Cook was appointed sergeant. His command was in the reserve force at St. Mihiel and was actively engaged in the Argonne Forest and in the Verdun Conflans Defensive. He was at the front when the armistice went into effect. Sergeant Cook served a total of 21 months



and one day in the Federal Army and was mustered out of the service at Camp Funston, May 6, 1919.

October 20, 1919, the firm of Cook and Sermon was organized and they purchased the grocery and meat business of Curran, Schulenberg and Hausam, located on the north side of the square.

Sergeant Cook is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Blue Lodge and Chapter and is affiliated with the Loyal Order of Moose. He resides at 211 West Farmer street.

Charles Stewart, deceased, was a prominent farmer and stockman of Blue township, and a member of one of the oldest Jackson County pioneer families. He was a freighter and plainsman, veteran of the Civil War, and noted for his industry, honesty and upright citizenship. He left behind him a record of which his descendants can always be proud, and the community in which he resided was better for his having been long a resident therein. Mr. Stewart was born on the farm where his family now resides, March 17, 1841, and died May 6, 1898. His remains are interred in the Salem church cemetery.

Charles Stewart was a son of Charles and Mary (Peters) Stewart, both of whom were natives of Tennessee. They were reared and married in their native State, and soon after their marriage they set out for the northland, to find a new home in the then unsettled country. The long, overland trip was made on horseback. They first located in Illinois, and then they came westward to Jackson County in the early thirties, locating near Atherton, in Blue township. Here they reared a family, built up a farm and spent the remaining years of their lives. The father's remains are buried in Jones cemetery, and the mother lies sleeping in the Jones cemetery.

The early education of Charles Stewart, Jr., was obtained in the primitive schools. When he was a youth the business of freighting goods over the Santa Fe trail and to western points by wagons was of considerable importance. The life of a freighter or ox and mule driver appealed to the young men of his neighborhood as affording adventure and the means with which to earn money. He became a freighter and teamster, and made several trips to the Southwest and the then unknown West, with freighting outfits, and he also journeyed to California and Oregon during and after the Civil War. However, he served three months in the Federal Army during the war. After several years spent in freighting and in the western country he returned home and settled down to farming and stock raising, and established a splendid home for his family. The Stew-





CHARLES STEWART.



art farm embraces 185 acres, 80 acres of which is rich, Missouri River bottom land. One hundred and five acres comprise the home place. The Stewart farm is very fertile, and is well improved with a large nine-room residence, erected in 1909, located on an elevation on the Atherton—Courtney highway. The land is adapted to the raising of alfalfa and the Stewart boys are making a success of alfalfa raising and the production of high grade Duroc Jersey hogs.

Charles Stewart was married in 1885 to Miss Agatha J. Mann, who was born March 8, 1861, in Indiana, a daughter of Benjamin F. and Martha (Hawkins) Mann, who came to Jackson County from Indiana in 1874, and settled on a farm near Courtney, in Blue township. Mr. Mann developed a fine farm, and he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives in Jackson County. Seventy acres of the Mann land is still owned by the heirs. The children born to Charles and Agatha J. Stewart are as follow: Nellie Stewart, graduate of Independence High School, studied at the Sargent School, Boston, Mass., and is now a teacher in Northeast High School; Benjamin M., assisting in the operation of the home farm; Martha, graduated from Independence High School, and is the wife of William B. Smith, Kansas City, Mo.; John C. Stewart, on the home place.

The Stewarts originally came from Virginia. Mrs. Stewart's ancestors also came from Virginia, both old American families.

Mr. Stewart was a Republican. Benjamin M. Stewart is a Republican, and John C. Stewart is a Democrat. Mrs. Stewart is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, which Mr. Stewart attended. John C. Stewart is a Thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, and is a member of Ararat Temple of the Mystic Shrine, Kansas City.

Claude L. Bostwick, proprietor of an automobile livery and garage at 120 East Maple street, Independence, Mo. is a native son of Jackson County, and is descended, on his maternal side from one of the oldest and best known of the pioneer families in Jackson County. He was born on a farm near Grain Valley, in Sniabar township on Dec. 15, 1886 and is a son of Admiral Nelson and Lucy A. (Johnson) Bostwick, the latter of whom was born in Jackson County and is a daughter of David Johnson, a pioneer of this county. A sketch of Admiral N. Bostwick and a history of the Johnson family appears elsewhere in this volume.

Claude L. Bostwick attended the Round Grove district school and followed farming until he came to Independence and started in the livery business in 1903. He has since been engaged in this business. He purchased the C. H. Ragland Auto and Garage business on March 1, 1919.



The Bostwick Garage is carried on in a large room 60 x 100 feet on East Maple street. Mr. Bostwick does a regular auto livery business and furnishes automobiles for funeral corteges. He has an automobile hearse which cost \$4,500.00 and cares for the business of the undertakers of the city.

He was married on July 16, 1919, to Miss Mary E. Wilson of Blue township. Her father is deceased and her mother remarried, being Mrs. James McCown and lives on a farm in Blue township.

Mr. Bostwick is a member of the Loyal Order of Moose, and is recognized as one of the hustling and substantial business men of Independence.

**Captain Roger Thomas Sermon**, member of the grocery firm of Cook and Sermon, Independence, Mo., former officer in the National Army who served in the World War, was born in Independence, Nov. 2, 1890. He is a son of George A. and Adelia (Todd) Sermon who resides at 904 Van Horn street in this city.

George A. Sermon is a native of Kansas City, and was born in 1861. Mrs. Adelia B. Sermon was born in Independence. They are parents of children as follow: Mrs. Mabel Bradley, Independence; Mrs. Anna Schulerberg, Independence; Harry, deceased; Roger T., subject of this sketch, Independence; Roy, in the garage business at Independence; William, a student in the State University at Columbia.

Roger Thomas Sermon graduated from Independence High School in 1908. After leaving high school he served as a clerk in the Independence post office. He enlisted in the Missouri National Guard in 1907 and was connected with the state military organization until his command was taken into the regular army service. He enlisted in the regular army on June 19, 1916 and served until Dec. 22, 1916 on the Mexican border as first lieutenant of his company. Aug. 5, 1917, he again hearkened to the call of this country, which was arrayed against Germany in the World War and he enlisted in the Federal army. At Camp Doniphan he was commissioned a captain in Battery C. He was afterwards adjutant in the second battalion and was captain of Battery A.

He crossed the Atlantic in command of Battery A and was regimental adjutant while his command was in France. He saw active service with the American forces in the Vosges Mountains, was in the reserve at St. Mihiel, and served in the Argonne Forest, Somme Deine sector, with the 129th Field Artillery, of the famous 35th Division. When the armistice went into effect Nov. 11, 1918, he was at the front. He sailed from Brest, France, April 19, 1919, landed in the United States April 30, 1919, and re-

ceived his honorable discharge from the service at Camp Funston May 21, 1919. Captain Sermon was in the service from Aug. 5, 1917, to May 21, 1919, and previously had served on the Mexican border from June 5, 1916, to December 22, 1916, and came out of the army a seasoned, hardened and trained veteran who has seen continuous service of a military character from July 31, 1907 to May 21, 1919, 12 years in all.

Captain Sermon was married Jan. 16, 1910 to Miss Stella Campbell, a daughter of John Thomas and Bertha Campbell of Lees Summit, the former of whom is deceased and the latter resides at Lees Summit. Captain and Mrs. Serman have a son, Roger T., Jr., born Oct. 8, 1918.

The residence of Captain and Mrs. Sermon is at 818 West Van Horn street. Captain Sermon is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and the American Legion.

Frederick Madison Smith, president of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Independence, Mo., was born at Plano, Ill., Jan. 21, 1874. He is a son of Joseph and Bertha (Madison) Smith. He was educated in the State University of Iowa, studying in this university during the year, 1894 and 1895; received the Degree of Bachelor of Science from Graceland College, Lamoni, Iowa, in 1898; studied in the extension department of the University of Missouri in 1908 and 1909; received the Master's Degree from the University of Kansas in 1911, and the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Clark University in 1916.

Dr. Smith was married Aug. 3, 1897, to Miss Ruth L. Cobb, a daughter of Elijah and Alice E. Cobb, of Lamoni, Iowa. Their children are: Alice Myrmida and Lois Audentia.

President Smith was First Councilor of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints from 1902 to 1915, and in the latter year he was elevated to the presidency of the church. Prior to this he was professor of mathematics at Graceland College from 1899 and 1900. He was editor of the Lamoni "Chronicle" from 1900 to 1902. From 1900 to 1904 he was assistant and associate editor of the "Saints Herald." He was editor of the "Journal of History" from 1908 to 1912. He has acted as president of the board of directors of Independence Sanitarium, trustee of Graceland College, a director of the United Order of Enoch, and secretary and director of the Lamoni school board.

President Smith holds membership in the American Geographical Society, the American Institute of Archaeology, the Missouri State Historical Society, the American Economic Association, the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology, the American Peace Society, the



American Sociological Society, the Academy of Political Science of New York, the Missouri Valley Historical Society, the Society of Colonial Wars, and the Illinois Society of Sons of the American Revolution. He is also associated with the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the National Confederation of Charities and Corrections, and the Missouri Confederation of Social Welfare. He was editor of the Saints Herald in 1917. He holds a membership in the University Club at Washington.

President Smith is a broad gauged man of massive intellect, democratic in his personal manners and an affable and pleasant gentleman. The responsibility which he carries is considerable, but he fully measures up to the requirements of his position.

**Elbert A. Smith**, member of the first presidency of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, was born in Nauvoo, Ill., March 8, 1871, and is the only son of David H. and Clara (Hartshorn) Smith. David H. Smith was the youngest son of Joseph Smith the founder of the Church of Latter Day Saints. Clara (Hartshorn) Smith was the daughter of William and Charlotte (Eastman) Hartshorn.

David H. Smith was also born in Nauvoo, Ill., Nov. 18, 1844 and died in 1905. He was buried at Lamoni, Iowa, where the present church was first incorporated. The members of the First Presidency are: Frederick M. Smith and Elbert A. Smith.

Elbert A. Smith was educated in the public schools of Buena Vista, Iowa, and in 1900 entered the mission field for his church in California. He held a pastorate at Burlington, Iowa, and after completing his pastorate there he devoted much of his time to educational and literary work. He was editor of *Autumn Leaves*, the magazine for young people of the church from 1902 to 1919. He has also been a member of the editorial staff of the *Herald* since 1906. The presidency work takes up the greater part of the time of the subject of this review, as the presidency supervises the activities of the church in all the world. Mr. Smith's office is at the corner of Lexington and Rover Boulevard, opposite the church.

Mr. Smith is author of a book of poems entitled, "*Hesperis*" and he has also published two novels, "*The Minister Who was Different*", and "*Joe Pine*". All of these works having had an extensive sale.

Elbert A. Smith was married in 1895 to Miss Clara Cochran, of Lamoni, Iowa, a daughter of Asa and Mabel (Church) Cochran. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have two children: Ronald G. and Lynn E. Smith.

Clara Hartshorn Smith, mother of Elbert A. Smith is a native of Illinois, and now makes her home in Independence with her son.



Mr. Smith has led a very active and useful life, as a minister, writer and publisher, besides his poems and books he has written and published many tracts dealing with the tenets of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints and religious matters. His whole time is devoted to the upbuilding of his church and to spreading its influence throughout the country. He is a man of unusual scholastic attainments, and impresses acquaintances as a deep thinker and profound student, who is sincere in his beliefs and teachings.

Walter Wayne Smith, clergyman and educator, born near Somerset, Pulaski County, Ky., Sept. 21, 1878, son of Martin Beatty and Melissa A. (Stephens) Smith was the first of his family to leave the Smith Shoals neighborhood, the ancestral home of his family. George and Elizabeth (Roblin) Smith emigrated from Mulhausen in the Kingdom of Saxony to America and settled at the foot of the shoals of the Cumberland River, above Burnsides in Pulaski County, Ky., in the latter part of the 18th century. Their third son, Daniel, was born July 30, 1801, and he married Miss Elizabeth, daughter of James and Keziah (Moberly) Lee. Mr. Lee was a Virginian who had served in the Revolutionary War. Their son, William Wayne Smith, was born April 20, 1825, and was named for Mad Anthony Wayne, under whom his grandfather had served in battle. William Wayne Smith was married to Miss Polly Jane, daughter of Hiram Hughes, a veteran of the War of 1812, and his wife, Elizabeth (Massey) Hughes. To this marriage were born three sons and two daughters, the second son being the father of the subject of this sketch. Mr. Smith's mother was a daughter of Shadrach W. Stephens, M. D., and his wife, Nancy (Cannefax) Stephens, of Monticello, Wayne county, Ky. The Stephens family was an old colonial family, originating in the Isle of Wight in the days of feudalism.

Mr. Smith removed with his mother, brothers and sisters to Johnson County, Mo., in 1891, his father having died in 1889 where he was employed at farming until the outbreak of the Spanish-American War. He enlisted as a private in Company L, Fourth Missouri Volunteer Infantry, and served throughout the war. During a part of this time, he held a commission as a Y. M. C. A. secretary with his regiment, under Mr. Banks of the Army Christian Commission. After his return from the army he went to Kansas City in search of employment. He secured a position as a clerk in a wholesale house, and later entered the employ of a contractor and builder as time keeper, where he continued until the spring of 1900.

He was appointed to the active ministry of the Reorganized Church

of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, by the general conference of 1900. He filled appointments in Kansas City and in Northern Missouri until April, 1904, when he was chosen pastor of the First Saints Church of Philadelphia, Pa., which position he held until 1916, when he was chosen pastor of the First Saints, Stone Church, Independence, Mo., which numbered 3,100 members, being the largest congregation of its denomination. He was also made president of the Independence Stake or Conference, a position which he now holds. He served as editor of Zion's Ensign, missionary newspaper of the church during the years of 1916, 1917 and 1918. He was chosen General Church Historian in 1919 and editor of the Journal of History. He is also a member of the Standing High Council, which is the Supreme Court of his denomination.

Walter Wayen Smith was married on Christmas Day, 1901, to Miss Maggie Eunice Winn, daughter of David F. and Elizabeth Jane (Howe) Winn of Kansas City, Mo. The Winns are descended from a long line of cavalier ancestry of Virginia, where they were settled in Fauquier County early in the 18th century. The emigrant Minor Winn or Wynne came from near Carnarvon, North Wales, the home of the family since the 8th Century. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have three sons: Robert Wayne Smith, born in Kansas City, June 6, 1903; Dudley Winn Smith, born in Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 24, 1905; and Ronald Martin Smith, born in Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 23, 1909.

Mrs. Walter Wayne Smith is also an educator, having received her training in the public schools of Kansas City, Mo., Hatton College, Higbee, Mo., and graduated from the Teachers College Kindergarten Training School of Temple University, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1913. She subsequently took the degree of A. B. from Milton University. She is engaged in teaching, being registrar of the Independence Institute of which she was one of the founders, and she is now director of the Department of Normal Kindergarten Training. She is a member of the I. K. U., The Kindergarten Club of Kansas City, The Laurel Club of Independence and is author of the Sunday School Lessons, for the Beginners Grade of the Church.

Mr. Smith received his early education in the public schools of Pulaski County, Ky., Chilhowee, Mo., and Holden, Mo. During the early years of his ministry, he devoted much time to study and research. He took a degree of Ph.B. from Potomac College in 1913, and in the same year he received his divinity degree. He graduated from the Teachers College of Temple University, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1916. He has been honored by the degree of M. A. by his divinity school. In connection with his minis-



terial labors he has found time to teach almost continuously. He, with others, founded in 1916, the Independence Institute of Arts and Sciences and was chosen its principal in which capacity he continues. He is a lecturer of Graceland College, Lamoni, Iowa. He is author of a Normal Teacher Training Text on the Book of Mormon. He is a member of the Archaeological Institute of America, the National Geographic Society, the State Historical Society of Missouri; and the Boy Scout Council of Independence. The family residence is at 631 Fuller Ave., Independence, Mo.

**William G. Bronson**, senior member of the Bronson and Page Hardware Company, is one of the hustling business men of Independence. The firm is composed of William G. Bronson and W. A. Page and was organized in December, 1914, succeeding the firm of Bronson and McCord which was started in 1909, succeeding The Jack Totty Hardware Company of Independence. Jack Totty was associated with Nichols, the pioneer hardware merchant of Independence. Bronson and Page carry a regular and complete line of hardware, paints, glass and do general plumbing.

William G. Bronson was born at Princeville, Ill., in 1864 and is a son of Ovando and Amanda (Morrow) Bronson, the former a native of Ohio and the latter a native of Illinois. Ovando Bronson settled in Andrew County, Mo., in 1877 and engaged in farming. He improved a good farm and reared his family in Andrew County, dying in 1898. Mrs. Bronson died in 1883. Their children are as follow: A. H., Fillmore, Mo.; Harriet Ellen Bronson, St. Joseph, Mo.; William G., subject of this review; A. E., in the employ of Swift and Company, Omaha, Neb.

William G. Bronson assisted his father on the home farm in Andrew County until he became of age and then followed farming and threshing on his own account for the next ten years. In 1901 he went to St. Joseph, Mo., and embarked in the dairy business. He followed this business for four years and was then in the employ of the St. Joseph Transfer Company until he came to Independence in May, 1909. In August of that year he associated himself with the Bronson and McCord Hardware Co., Ray A. McCord being his first partner.

Mr. Bronson was married in November, 1896, to Mamie Belle Guinn, of Fillmore, Mo., a daughter of James F. and Mary (Christie) Guinn, both of whom are deceased. To this marriage have been born two children: Guinn William, aged seven years, and Herschel Clay.

The Bronson family residence is located at 1219 West Walnut street. Mr. Bronson is a member of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints.



**William Bostian**, proprietor of the Bostian Confectionery, at 114 North Liberty street, ex-postmaster of Independence, was born on a farm in the Mt. Washington neighborhood, Feb. 9, 1861. He is a son of Henry and Margaret (Young) Bostian.

Henry Bostian was born in Germany, and immigrated to America in 1856. During the Civil War he served in the Missouri State Militia, under Captain Smith, his company being mustered into the Union service at Independence. He met his death at the hands of Quantrell's men, Oct. 11, 1865—months after the close of the war. His widow survived him for many years, and died in July, 1908. Both are buried at Woodland cemetery. The children born to Henry and Margaret Bostian are as follow: Mrs. Henrietta Rex, Paola, Kan.; Mrs. Augusta Pettis, Belton, Mo.; Mrs. Anna Gibson, Independence; Henry, a barber in Independence; William Bostian, of this review.

The first school which William Bostian attended was a private school, taught by Professor Clay, at the corner of Linn and Walnut streets, and he also attended the seminary, which occupied the site of the Ott School. After leaving school he learned the barber's trade, and followed it for 23½ years. He was appointed postmaster of Independence in 1901, by President McKinley, and served for 12½ years, under Presidents Roosevelt, Taft and Wilson. Mr. Bostian purchased his present confectionery business of George B. Foster, in 1913. The Bostian Confectionery enjoys a splendid trade, from six to ten clerks being employed.

William Bostian was married Sept. 15, 1886, to Miss Margaret Hinters, of Independence, a daughter of Peter and Margaret Hinters, both of whom are deceased. The children born to this marriage are as follow: William B., Madeline, Kenneth, Margaret Mary, Lawrence A. and Louise.

William B. is a practicing attorney in Kansas City, associated with R. R. Brewster, in the Scarritt Building. He served as a lieutenant with a machine gun battalion in the National Army during the World War. For ten months he was an artillery instructor in France, receiving his commission at Fort Sheridan, Nov. 28, 1917. He arrived in France in January, 1918, and was on the firing line between Cambria and St. Quentin, and fought at Bonne and Bullecourt, was an officer of Company C, One Hundred and Fifth battalion of machine gunners. Madeline is the wife of Paul Reese Rider, St. Louis, Mo. Mr. Rider is an instructor in Washington University. He served as second lieutenant in the coast artillery, and was stationed at Fort Worden, Wash., during his service in the World War. A sketch of Captain Kenneth V. Bostian appears in this



WILLIAM BOSTIAN.





history. Miss Margaret Mary Bostian is supervising instructor in home economics, University High School, Columbia, Mo. Lawrence A. Bostian is a student in the State University, at Columbia, Mo. During the World War he was a member of the Fifty-sixth artillery, and was in the officers' training school at Camp Taylor when the armistice was signed. Louise Bostian is a student in the State University, at Columbia, Mo.

The Bostian family residence is located at 602 North Delaware street. Mr. Bostian is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, and is past State president of this order. He is also affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Yeomen.

**Walter I. and Charles E. Betts**, jewelers and opticians, have a flourishing and profitable business at 128 North Maple street, conducted under the name of Betts Brothers. The business was first established by W. I. Betts, April 16, 1915 at 217 West Maple, later moving to the Battery Block. The firm carries a complete and splendid line of watches, clocks, diamonds, gold and silver jewelry, cut glass ware, and such goods as are usually found in a first class modern jewelry store. Charles E. Betts is a graduate of the National School of Optometry at St. Louis and practiced his profession at Belleville, Ill. and St. Louis, Mo., prior to associating himself with his brother. He is licensed to practice optometry in the state of Illinois and is a member of the S. W. Illinois Optometrical Club. He was born in Belleville, Ill., April 29, 1883 and was educated in the schools of his native city. For a number of years he was with the Scrugg-Vandervoort, Barney Dry Goods Company of St. Louis, in a managerial capacity. He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Belleville, Ill.

Walter I. Betts was born in Belleville, Ill., Oct. 11, 1885 and is a graduate of the St. Louis Horological School, completing his course in this school on March 1, 1915. He then came to Independence and established the present business.

The parents of Walter I. and Charles E. Betts are Joseph E. and Florence (Crowson) Betts. Joseph E. Betts was born July 24, 1856 and died in Milwaukee, Wis., Oct. 22, 1913. He was a son of Joseph E. Betts, Sr., who was born in Warwickshire, England, June 7, 1836 and died Dec. 8, 1911. His wife that is, the wife of Joseph E. Betts, Sr., was Mary Marie Jacques, born in Warwickshire, England, in 1835 and died Dec. 7, 1889. They removed from England to Belleville, Ill., in 1868 and established a home there, where both died. Joseph E. Betts, Jr., was married to Florence Crowson, who was born in Alton, Ill., March 17, 1860, a daughter of Charles and Charlotte Crowson, the former of whom was born in Warwick-

shire, England in 1837, and the latter was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1842. She resides in Independence, Mo.

Joseph Betts, Sr. and his son Joseph Betts, Jr. were engaged in coal mining in the Belleville, Ill. coal field, and operated several mines in that vicinity.

Charlotte (Jarvis) Crowson was a daughter of George and Ann Jarvis, the former of whom was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1816 and died in 1895, and the latter born in 1822 and died in 1884. She was born in Birmingham, England. George and Ann Jarvis were married in 1840 and emigrated from England to America in 1852 and settled at Alton, Ill.

Charles Crowson crossed the plains enroute to California in 1868 in charge of mule freighting outfits.

Robert Edwards, and Mary (Rice) Edwards, great grand parents of Mrs. Florence Betts were born in Birmingham, England and came to America when 70 years of age, remained here four years and then returned to England in 1878, dying there.

Walter I. Betts was married to Caroline Stonger of Independence, June 20, 1912. She is a daughter of Philip and Sarah (Crook) Stonger of Pana, Ill., both of whom are residing in Independence. Mr. and Mrs. Betts have a daughter, Thelma Vione Betts. They reside at 822 West White Oak street.

**Henry Bostian**, barber and city councilman from the Second Ward, whose place of business is located in the basement of the Clinton Building, Independence, is a native of this city. He was born March 14, 1869, and is a son of Henry and Margaret (Young) Bostian. His brother, Henry Bostian is proprietor of the Bostian confectionery and is a former postmaster of Independence. Further details concerning the parents of Mr. Bostian of this sketch will be found elsewhere in this volume in the sketch of Wm. Bostian.

After attending the public schools of Jackson County, Henry Bostian, at the age of 15 years, learned the trade of barber in the shop of his brother William and Mr. Helff. When his brother, William Bostian was appointed postmaster of Independence, Mr. Bostian purchased the shop. He moved to his present location in 1909 and now operates a three chair shop and has an excellent and profitable trade. He has been in business for the past 31 years, constantly and is one of the real pioneer business men of the city.

Mr. Bostian was married Dec. 19, 1895, to Miss Josephine Joseph of Kansas City, a native of Glasgow, Mo. and daughter of Joseph and Mar-



garet Joseph, both of whom are deceased. Mr. Henry died when the present Mrs. Bostian was a child. During the latter years of her life, Mrs. Joseph made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Bostian. Both parents are buried in the Catholic cemetery.

To Henry and Josephine Bostian has been born one son, Joseph H. Bostian, Jr., who is in the employ of the Sugar Creek Oil Refinery at Sugar Creek, Mo. He married Miss Delsie Smith and they have one son, Joseph H., Jr.

Henry Bostian is affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Eagles of Independence and for the past year he has filled the office of councilman from the Second Ward of his home city, having been elected in April, 1918.

Ambrose E. Elliot, proprietor of the Independence Wholesale Candy Company, 211 West Lexington street, Independence, was born in Nelson County, Ky., Dec. 2, 1867. He is a son of Benjamin F. and Martha (Curry) Elliot, both of whom were natives of Kentucky.

Benjamin F. Elliot left Kentucky and located at Parsons, Kan. and lived there for five years, Mrs. Elliot dying there. Mr. Elliot died near Frankfort, Mo. During the Civil War he served as recruiting officer for the Federal army in Nelson County, Ky. The children born to Benjamin F. and Martha Elliot are as follow: James, died at the age of 21 years; Mrs. Lizzie Herke, deceased; Mrs. L. S. Moore, Kansas City; Hattie Elliot, deceased; Robert M., Galena, Kan.; Benjamin Franklin and George, Pitcher, Okla.; Ambrose E., of this sketch; William, died in infancy.

After attending the public schools in Kansas and Missouri, Ambrose E. Elliott was employed in a grocery store at Stanley, Indian Territory, and later engaged in the lumber business at Joplin, Mo. He came to Independence in 1900 and started a lumber yard in 1901 on Lexington street. He conducted this business until 1906 when he sold out and purchased an interest in a planing mill in partnership with C. G. Stewart and the firm was afterwards known as Stewart and Elliot Planing Mill Company. After Stewart sold his interest the firm was known as the Independence Planing Mill Company, Mr. Elliot retaining his interest until after 1910, at which time the plant was destroyed by fire, but was afterwards rebuilt. Shortly after the fire, Mr. Elliot disposed of his planing mill interests and engaged in the real estate business in 1911. He had traded his planing mill interest for a moving picture show in Kansas City, located at 1123 Grand avenue and operated this for about three years. He then sold the theatre and purchased another at 107 East Twelfth street which he operated until



Nov. 1, 1918. He then sold this theatre and bought the Independence Wholesale Candy Company.

The Independence Wholesale Candy Company was established in 1901 by M. S. White who began business with a one horse wagon, manufactured candy and sold his output on the city streets. As he sold candy, he put the proceeds into more candy and gradually enlarged the business until it embraced jobbing. Mr. Elliot purchased the business in April, 1919.

Mr. Elliot was married in 1895 to Rose J. Bearly of Seligman, Mo., who has borne him six children: William Russell Elliot, associated with his father in the business; Gladys, Oneda, Paul, Everett and Wilma.

The Elliot family residence is situated at 618 S. Crysler street. Mr. Elliot is a member of the Loyal Order of Moose and is a Shriner and a 32nd degree Mason.

William Russell Elliot was born in Stanley, Indian Territory, July 2, 1896. He enlisted on March 19, 1917, at Kansas City, Mo., in the United States navy, and was sent to the Great Lakes Naval Training Station for training. From this station he was sent to Norfolk, Va., and thence to Key West, Fla., transferred from the U. S. S. Mars to the U. S. S. Charleston, in the First Fleet Division of Battle Cruisers. From Key West his ship proceeded to St. Thomas, in the West Indies and thence to Port Au Prince and returned to Philadelphia after a month's cruise. The ship was then sent to New York, then to Newport, R. I., and back to New York and accompanied the first convoy of the American Expeditionary Forces to France under General Pershing, arriving in France June 28, 1917. The Charleston crossed the Atlantic 24 times and during the voyages William R. Elliot saw several German submarines and had the pleasure of seeing them shot at from his ship, taking part in the shooting. His rank on the ship was that of boatswains mate, second class. He was placed on board ship 19 days after enlistment and was on the water in the service two years, four months and 25 days. He was mustered out of service Sept. 3, 1919 at Denver, Colo. His ship passed through the Panama Canal twice. On one occasion he nearly lost his life. During a severe storm at sea, he was washed overboard by a great wave and knocked senseless by contact with the ship while overboard, but was rescued by a chief boatswain's mate and two sailors, and was none the worse for his mishap after five days in the ship hospital. He is now associated with his father in the wholesale candy business. He is a member of Tirey J. Ford Post, of the American Legion and is affiliated with the Loyal Order of Moose.

**May Grain Company.**—The May Grain Company, 407 South Liberty street, Independence, Mo., was organized by Nephi and Alvin May, in 1911. The May Coal Company owned and operated by William H. May, is located at the same address.

Roderick May, father of Nephi, Alvin and William H. May, was born in Scotland, in 1850. He immigrated to Canada in 1882 and was there married to Sarah J. Lively, who was a native of Canada, born in 1855. He came to Independence, Mo., in 1884 and established a cooperage business on the present site of the May Grain Company. He operated this factory for over 20 years and did a thriving and prosperous business, employing 50 men at times. He later engaged in the coal mining industry and operated a coal mine at Napoleon, Mo. He sold his mining interests in 1911 and moved to London, England. The children born to Roderick and Sarah J. May are as follow: Charles May, Independence, Mo.; Nephi and Alvin May; Elizabeth Pearl, widow of J. V. Crick, now resides in London, England. Her husband was a native of Independence, and a son of William Crick; William H.

Alvin May was born in Independence, Mo., in 1884. After graduating from the local high school he engaged in coal mining with his father until entering his present business. He was married in 1911 to Clara A. Bradbury, a daughter of Mrs. Lillie Bradbury, of Kansas City, Kan. Three children have been born to this marriage: Alvin R., Doris and Rowena. The residence of Alvin and Mrs. May is at 1011 W. White Oak. Mr. May is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Lodge No. 76, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias.

Nephi May was born in Kansas City, Kan. in 1880 and educated in the grade and high school of Independence. He pursued a business course at Graceland College, Lamoni, Iowa, and later attended Spalding's Commercial College, Kansas City. He assisted his father in the cooperage factory and was also associated with him in the mining industry at Napoleon prior to entering the wholesale and retail grain business with his brother. He was married to Anna Crick, a daughter of William Crick, and they have five children: Dorothy, Russell, Elizabeth, Gilbert and Alice. Nephi May and the family reside on East Ninth street, Kansas City, Mo.

William H. May, of the May Coal Company, dealers in coal and building material, was born in Independence, Dec. 27, 1889. After attending the Independence schools he entered Graceland College at Lamoni, Iowa, where he studied for some time. He served as bookkeeper for the Independence Coal Company in which his father was financially interested and



engaged in the retail coal business in 1912. He was married on June 17, 1916 to Lulu W. Simmons, a daughter of C. G. and Carlotta Simmons of Independence. One son was born of this union, William Henry, Jr. The family residence is at 1027 W. White Oak. Mr. May is a member of the Yeoman Lodge.

**Charles W. Latimer**, chief deputy in the office of the county treasurer, Independence, Mo., is a native of Jackson County. He was born August 31, 1871, and is a son of Judge James Latimer and Susan (Williamson) Latimer, the latter of whom was born in Kentucky in 1844 and the former was born in Roanoke County, Va., in 1837.

James Latimer came to Jackson County in 1852 with his father, Samuel Latimer. They settled in Fort Osage township, developed a farm, and Samuel Latimer and his wife died on the place. After the home place was sold, James Latimer purchased the John Sanders farm, located three miles southeast of Independence, upon which he resided until his death in 1915. Mrs. Susan Latimer resides on East Rubey street, Independence. The children of the Latimer family are: W. R., a farmer in Blue township; Stella, widow of D. B. Hedges, Independence; Nannie, wife of A. G. Williamson, Maywood; Mary, wife of C. J. Powell, Blue township; Charles W., subject of this sketch; J. J. Latimer died in March, 1919, aged 45 years; Jennie Latimer, at home; Retta, wife of Judge Allen C. Southern, Kansas City, Mo.; M. M. Latimer, a live stock dealer, Independence; Grover C. Latimer died at the age of 11 years.

James Latimer served as a judge of the county court of Jackson County from 1892 to 1896. It is said of him that he was a careful and conscientious county official who gave the county a splendid administration which was noted for an economical and careful expenditure of the county funds. Judge Latimer would not permit the signing of a warrant for funds unless there were funds in the county treasury to immediately pay the warrant. As a result when his term expired there was money left in the treasury. He was one of the organizers of the Christian church at Bone Hill and filled the office of elder of this church for several years. He was prominent in the affairs of the Democratic party during his whole life.

Charles W. Latimer was educated in the Missouri State University, receiving the degree of Doctor of Laws. After graduation he practiced law for six months and took considerable interest in political matters in the county. He has been identified prominently with the Democratic party for several years and has filled the post of deputy county clerk, deputy county collector, deputy county assessor, deputy highway engineer, and is at present filling the post of deputy in the office of the county treasurer.



Mr. Latimer was married in March, 1910, to Kathryn D. George of Lees Summit, Mo., a daughter of Richard and Martha George, both of whom are deceased, and further mention of whom is given in connection with the sketch of Todd M. George, county treasurer. One son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Latimer, Charles W., Jr., who died in infancy. They have an adopted son, C. W., Jr., aged ten years.

Mr. and Mrs. Latimer are also rearing John Holbert Haynes, a nephew of Mrs. Latimer. The Latimer residence is located at 121 E. Kansas street. Mr. Latimer is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Blue Lodge, No. 76, the Knights of Pythias and he is a member of the Presbyterian church.

**Dr. Edgar S. Harris**, specialist in the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, with offices in the Hill Building, Independence, Mo., is a native of Jackson County. He was born Dec. 25, 1876, on a farm in Van Buren township, and is a son of John Reuben and Mary E (Corn) Harris.

John Reuben Harris was also born in Van Buren township in 1850 and is a son of Fleming and Mary Harris and grandson of William and Rhoda Harris who settled in the Blue Springs neighborhood in 1832. Mrs. Rhoda Harris was one of those rare characters which history frequently tells about and whose accomplishments are handed down to younger generations as part of the folk lore of the olden times, when doctors were few in the country and when simple remedies were in vogue among the settlers when illness came upon them. Mrs. Harris was an adept in caring for the sick and ailing and had some knowledge of medicine, which could be brewed from native herbs. She would travel for miles to succor a sick person and when illness came upon a family she would leave her own fireside and give her time and talents toward alleviating the distress of her neighbors. She was one of the most capable and best beloved women of the Blue Springs country and will long be remembered by such of the old settlers as still live in that part of the county. The Harris family is one of the oldest and most prominent families of Jackson County and the family ties are bound closely among its members. Each year a reunion of the descendants of William and Rhoda Harris is held either at Lees Summit, Greenvew or Blue Springs and members of this family to the number of 200 or 300 are in attendance.

John R. Harris has always been a farmer and now resides on a farm which he purchased in 1918, on the Buckner road, in Fort Osage township. Mrs. Mary E. Harris died in 1907 and is buried in the cemetery at Six Mile church. When Order No. 11 was issued during the Civil War, the

Harris family removed to Carroll County and remained there until they were privileged to return. In the meantime, young John R. Harris made several perilous trips back and forth between the home farm and the temporary home in Carroll County, his method of transportation being with ox teams. The following children were born to John R. and Mary E. Harris: D. L. Harris, a commission merchant at Fort Worth, Texas; Dr. Edgar S. Harris of this review; John E. Harris, manager of a factory branch of the Ideal Tire and Rubber Company of Cleveland, Ohio, in Kansas City; Mrs. Nora E. Mann, Blue Springs, Mo.; Mrs. Nellie Strode, Blue Springs.

Edgar S. Harris was educated in the public schools of his native county, Ryan College, at Ryan, Okla., the University at Fort Worth, Texas, and the University of Kansas, graduating from the Medical Department of the latter institution in 1899. Dr. Harris has never ceased to study for advancement in the science of his profession, however, and during the past 20 years he has been a constant student. He pursued a course at the Chicago Polyclinic in 1906, and has taken a post-graduate course in the University of Kansas. He began the practice of his profession at Oak Grove, Mo., in 1899, and practiced in that town for three years. He then practiced at Buckner for the next four years. After four years spent in practice at Higginsville, Mo., he located at Independence, Mo., in 1913, and has met with unqualified success in this city. Dr. Harris' offices are located in the Hill Building, on the northeast corner of the court house square.

Dr. Harris was married April 12, 1899, to Miss Lydia E. Lewis, of Tarsney, Jackson County, Missouri, a daughter of C. M. and Eliza E. (Perdue) Lewis, both of whom are living at Tarsney. Dr. and Mrs. Harris have one son, Lewis, aged 12 years, a junior in the high school.

Dr. Harris is a member of the Jackson County Medical Society, and is affiliated with the Royal Neighbors, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Yeomen. The Harris family residence is located at 619 South Main, Independence.

Fred Witthar, owner of a fine farm in Blue township, which he has owned and built up by his own efforts since coming to Jackson County, in 1877, is a native of Franklin County, Mo. He was born Oct. 3, 1856, and is a son of Henry and Mary Witthar, who came to Jackson County in 1877, resided on a farm on Bone Hill, in Fort Osage township, for the first six years, and then located on the Gossett place in Blue township, where both spent the remainder of their days. Henry Witthar died July 30,



FRED WITTHAR.



MRS. FRED WITTHAR.





1914, and his wife died July 6, 1916, and their remains are buried in Elmwood cemetery. The Witthar children are as follow: Henry, Independence, Mo.; Mrs. Catherine Drewel, Buckner, Mo.; Mrs. Lottie Borgmann, Buckner, Mo.; Mrs. Amelia Carl, Boonville, Mo.; Fred, the subject of this review; Christ, a farmer in Blue township; and Mrs. Louise Carl, living in Blue township.

Fred Witthar was reared and educated in Franklin County, and after coming to Jackson County, he followed dairying for about 15 years. He worked at farm labor by the month until 24 years of age, at \$12 to \$15 per month. He saved his money until he was able to buy a team and then rented land until he had earned and saved sufficient money to make a first payment on his farm. He first purchased 90 acres of the Gossett place, in 1886. He bought 97 acres of the Jonathan Alley farm in 1909, and later bought an additional four and a half acres. He has recently sold 47.5 acres of his holdings at high prices, and now has 50 acres, on which is an orchard of three acres, which is his home place, besides the 90-acre farm first purchased.

Mr. Witthar was married in 1880 to Caroline Borgmann, of Warren County, Mo., a daughter of William A. and Helena Borgmann, both of whom died in Warren County. Seven children have been born to Fred and Caroline Witthar, as follow: Mrs. Emma Twiehaus, Blue township; Edwin, living in Blue township; William, John, Meta, Anna and Lydia.

Mr. Witthar has served for 16 years as school director of his district. He is public spirited and much interested in providing for the education of the young, having donated a half acre of ground for the Pitcher School, which is located on his place. He is a successful citizen, who is now amply able and content to take life easily and enjoy the coming years by living frugally and working moderately. He and his family are members of the Evangelical church.

**B. C. Harder**, grocery merchant, Independence, Mo., while a new comer to this city, has given evidence of decided business ability, and is building up a splendid trade with the people of Independence and vicinity. He was born in Huron County, Mich., July 31, 1880. His father, Abraham Harder, was a native of Canada, born in 1832 and died at his home in Michigan at the age of 67 years. His mother, Mrs. Mary (Shippey) Harder, was a native of New York and died in 1895 at the age of 61 years. Both of Mr. Harder's parents are buried at Bayport, Mich. They were the parents of 13 children, as follow: James and John, deceased; Frederick, Flint, Mich.; Mrs. Caroline Grant, Bayport, Mich.; Mrs. Kittie Bradley, Grand Rapids,

Minn.; Mrs. Anna Johnson, Standish, Mich.; Adam, Longville, Minn.; Dennis, deceased; Wesley, Flint, Mich.; George, Bayport, Mich.; Eugene, Beaverton, Mich.; B. C., of this review; and Charles, deceased.

Since he was 14 years of age B. C. Harder has made his own living. He left the parental farm when 19 years old and has followed various occupations since that time. Much of the time has been spent as a machinist at which trade he was an adept, but owing to failing health he was compelled to go into other lines of business. For the past 11 years he has followed the grocery business, beginning his career in a grocery store at Flint, Mich. He came to Jackson County in January, 1914, and was in the employ of Charles F. Davis for some time. He opened his present grocery establishment in January, 1919, and has an excellent trade.

Nov. 11, 1919, armistice day, Mr. Harder placed on display in his window one of the most unique patriotic displays ever seen in the city. He prepared an American flag, using red cranberries for the red stripes, white navy beans for the white stripes of the flag, and the stars were made of lima beans on a blue background. This feature excited much comment of a favorable nature from observers.

Mr. Harder was married Aug. 10, 1908 to Rachel A. Dowker, of Flint, Mich., a daughter of William and Hannah Dowker. The two children born of this union were: Eythel died at the age of two and a half years, and Mona died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Harder reside at 224 Pendleton street.

**Henry P. Chiles**, farmer and stockman, and deputy county clerk, Independence, Mo., is a native of Jackson County, and is a member of one of the oldest and most prominent of the pioneer families of this section of Missouri. His grandfather, Joel Franklin Chiles, came from Kentucky to Jackson County in 1832, and settled in Fort Osage township. He operated a general store at Fort Osage for several years. He entered several hundred acres of land and accumulated sufficient acreage to give each of his children a farm. A biographical sketch of Joel Franklin Chiles appears in this volume.

Henry P. Chiles was born on his father's farm in Fort Osage township, east of Buckner, May 25, 1882. He is a son of the late Henry C. and Julia (Perrin) Chiles, a sketch of whom appears in this volume. Henry P. Chiles, of this review, was educated in the public and high schools of Independence, graduating from the high school in 1901. For four years he was employed in the general offices of the Kansas City Southern Railway Company, and then returned to the home farm. The Chiles farm consists of 150 acres, and is the old homestead of his father. The residence, which



was built of native timber, prior to the Civil War, is still standing in a good state of preservation. Mr. Chiles is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and maintains a herd of 15 dairy cows on his place. The Chiles farm is situated 12 miles east of Independence, on the Lexington rock road, and is known as the Crooked Run Farm, taking its name from the branch which runs through the land. In addition to managing his farm, Mr. Chiles is filling the post of deputy county clerk of Jackson County, under Peter J. Kelly.

Mr. Chiles was married March 9, 1905, to Miss Virgie May Ragan, a daughter of J. J. and Susan (Warren) Ragan. The grandfather of Mrs. Chiles owned the site of the city of Warrensburg, Mo., and the city was named in his honor. J. J. Ragan died in 1912, and is buried at Lees Summit, Mo. Mrs. Ragan resides at Lees Summit, Mo. Four children have been born to Henry P. and Virgie May Chiles, as follow. John Henry, Jean Tate, Julia Warren, died at the age of 14 months, and Virginia Ragan died at the age of nine months.

J. J. Ragan was a son of Greenbury Ragan and Jane (Tate) Ragan, pioneers of Jackson County, near Raytown. Jane (Tate) Ragan was a daughter of George Tate, a pioneer settler of the Lone Jack neighborhood, becoming a large land owner.

The Chiles town residence is at 1031 West White Oak street.

**James C. Graves**, veteran of the Civil War, octogenarian, for many years a noted trainer of horses, and breeder of thoroughbred animals, 1003 Dodgin street, was born in Woodford County, Kentucky, Aug. 27, 1837. He is a son of Reuben and Elizabeth (Cox) Graves, both of whom were natives of Virginia, and early settlers of Woodford County, Kentucky, where both died, the former at the age of 42 years, and the latter at the age of 67 years. Out of seven children born to this couple only one, James C., of this sketch, is living. The others were: Charles H., W. H., John, Thomas, Hannah and Bessie Savage.

In 1858 James C. Graves left the old home in Kentucky and went to Saline County, Missouri. He had no sooner got established in Saline County than the nation was plunged into Civil War. True to tradition and love of his old home section, he cast his lot with the Southern states and enlisted in the Confederate Army, under Capt. Gale Brown in 1861. He served under Gen. Joe Shelby and fought at the battles of Lexington and Pea Ridge, and took part in a hot battle at Coon Creek and many skirmishes. He served in the ranks until 1864, and was then detailed as a scout until the close of the war. He remained in Kentucky after the close of the

war, and was there married to Miss Laura Grady, of Woodford County, in 1865. She was born in that county, and died there in 1866. Mr. Graves was again married in 1868 to Mary E. Huggins, of Jessamine County, Kentucky. The children born to this marriage are: Ollie B., died in 1917, and is buried in Mount Washington cemetery, Kansas City; Mrs. Laura M. White, Kansas City; Mrs. Bessie Savage, died at the age of 22 years; Reuben died when five years old; Ernest died at the age of 16; and J. T. Graves, a dealer in automobile tires, Independence, Mo.

For 65 years James C. Graves has bred and trained riding and driving horses, and has won a national reputation as a horseman. During his long career he has won over 2,000 premiums at county and State fairs, and racing meets in all parts of the United States. His best track winners made records of from 2:14 to 2:30. The first horse which he bred and trained was "Donald McKay." He also bred and trained "Armoral," with a record of 2:17 $\frac{3}{4}$ , a famous pacer sired by "Don Pizarro," who held the world's record for a three-year-old at 2:14 $\frac{3}{4}$ . The dam of "Armoral" was "Allegro," also owned by Mr. Graves, and she was out of dam by "Jean Val Jean," record 2:14. Mr. Graves exhibited his horses in Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas and California. In the fall of 1917 "Urbanos" took part in 30 races, winning ten first and ten seconds, and three third prizes. He won a race in 2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$  at Corning, Iowa.

"Beacon McGregor," another famous trotter, owned by Mr. Graves, in one season out of seven races in which he was entered, won five firsts, among them being two \$1,000.00 purses, and closed the season with a record of 2:14 $\frac{3}{4}$ . At Dallas, Texas, Mr. Graves, with "Decoration," won a \$1,000.00 purse in 2:15 $\frac{1}{4}$ , in a field of 14 entries.

In 1917 Mr. Graves purchased a horse on the streets of Independence, named "Allie Ashbrook," a four-year-old, which he trained and won three \$1,000.00 purses, and sold him that fall to Ed. Greer for \$2,500.00 and a mare whose sire was "The Harvester," with a record of 2:01. Mr. Graves bred "Old Black Squirrel" at Independence, Mo., and "Chester Dan" and many other fine stallions who have figured in turf history of the country.

At Lawrenceburg, Ky., he showed his horses 21 times, and took 18 first and two second premiums. In 1889 Mr. Graves brought five head of Shorthorn cattle from Woodford County, Kentucky, and sold them to Ed. Graves, of Saline County, Missouri. These cattle were later exhibited and won premiums at the Lexington Fair. One of them, "Imported Downhorn," dam of "Fannie Forrester," was the most noted show animal in



Missouri and won more blue ribbons than any other animal at that time. She was formerly owned by Gus Shropshire, of Kentucky. Mr. Graves also owned "Blackeagle," sire of "Black Squirrel." The fine strain of saddle horses owned by Lulu Long have come from the old "Black Squirrel" stock of Kentucky.

Mr. Graves came to Independence in April, 1914, and purchased his present home at 1003 Dodgin street. His residence is a modern house of nine rooms, built of brick, and having a large barn at the rear of the premises.

Although past the great age of four score years, Mr. Graves is as well preserved as many men 30 years younger. Nov. 11, 1919, he marched in the armistice day parade, walking one mile up town from his home, marching in the parade, and then walking back to his home, and felt no ill effects from the exertion. It is his intention to handle racing horses until he is 100 years old. He loves horses, and his interest in fine animals keeps him young and active.

George S. Martin, 111 West Lexington street, proprietor of a meat market on the south side of the court house square, was born in Fayette County, Ohio, in 1863. He is a son of John V. B. Martin. His father was a veteran of the Civil War. He enlisted in an Ohio regiment for service with the Union Army, and served for two years in the South. In 1867 he came west to Missouri, and settled at Wayne City, some years later removing to Independence, where he died, Jan. 21, 1919. Mrs. Martin died in California, May 9, 1914. The children born to John V. B. and wife are as follow: Jennie, deceased; J. W. Martin, Independence; J. R., a butcher in Kansas City; George S. Martin, of this review; Minnie, wife of T. V. Cornell, Independence, Mo.; Ollie, wife of J. W. Ramsey, Independence; Jessie L., wife of Martin Welch, Independence; Lilla, wife of Ernest Jones, Kansas City; Leona, wife of F. M. Booth, Independence; Josephine, wife of David Ward, Los Angeles, Calif.; Warner Martin, Los Angeles, Calif.; Rufus Martin died at the age of seven years.

The schooling of George S. Martin was obtained at old Gilpintown, and in Kansas City. For five years he followed farming, after attaining maturity, and then spent five years in Wyoming as a cowboy. After his western experience he returned to Independence and in October, 1889, he embarked in the meat market business, and has followed it for the past 31 years. During his period of service as a cowboy in Wyoming, Mr. Martin helped to drive a large herd of 1,650 cattle from Ogalalla, Neb., to northwest Wyoming.



Besides his business in Independence Mr. Martin is owner of a farm of 80 acres situated in Johnson County, ten miles east of Warrensburg, and one mile south of Knob Noster.

Mr. Martin was married Dec. 23, 1891, to Mrs. Mary Warren, a daughter of Adolph and Margaret Warren, of Schell City, Mo. Adolph Warren died in Independence. Mrs. Margaret Warren lives at Jefferson City, Mo., with her daughter, Mrs. J. L. Scott. Mr. and Mrs. Martin have two children: Clarence W., now located near Los Angeles, Calif., in the aviation service of the United States Army. He enlisted at Minneapolis, and was crippled while serving in France. The tail of his airplane was shot off when at a height of 5,000 feet, and in the fall to the ground, his driver was killed and he, himself, was badly wounded. He lay unconscious for three days, and after recovering he went to California and is employed as an electrician. Theodore Overton Martin is associated with his father in the business.

The Martins reside at 312 West College street, where they have lived for the past 15 years. Mr. Martin is a charter member of the Woodmen of the World.

**L. E. Rood**, proprietor of a sheet metal and furnace shop, 115 East Lexington street, Independence, Mo., was born at Appleton City, St. Clair County, Missouri, and is a son of J. L. and Sarah C. (Troup) Rood, the former of whom was a native of Norway, and immigrated to America with his parents when three years of age, and was reared at Madison, Wis. He migrated to Missouri and settled on a farm near Appleton City, in 1865. After some years spent on the farm he removed to Appleton City, and engaged in the hardware business. He remained in this business until just a few years prior to his death, which occurred July 25, 1919. His widow resides in **Appleton City**.

Upon the outbreak of the Civil War, J. L. Rood enlisted in a Wisconsin regiment of Union volunteers, and served as corporal of his company. He was wounded through the right lung by a minnie ball, and did not return to the service after convalescing. He was a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Appleton City, and at the time of his death was the last surviving charter member of his lodge.

The children of J. L. and Sarah C. Rood are as follow: Mary Rood, Kansas City; Mrs. Emma Sallee, Pomona, Calif.; H. F. Rood, Hardin, Colo.; Ludema, wife of R. R. McCoy, Kansas City, Kan.; L. E. Rood, subject of this sketch; Mrs. Gertie Hamilton, Kansas City, Kan.; William H. Rood, Garden City, Mo.; Albert M. Rood, died at the age of 33 years at

Kansas City, Mo.; he was a citizen of Salana, N. M., at the time of his death.

After his graduation from the Appleton City High School in 1901, L. E. Rood entered his father's hardware store and assisted his father until his removal to Independence in 1904. For the next ten years he was in the employ of the Independence Hardware Company. In 1915 he embarked in the hardware business at the corner of Thirteenth street and Quindaro boulevard, Kansas City, and was located there for four years. Nov. 1, 1919, he opened his present establishment at 115 East Lexington street. Mr. Rood has had a good business from the very start, and is building up a fine patronage. He is thorough in his work and knows the trade of sheet metal and furnace worker from the ground up.

Mr. Rood was married in 1912 to Anna B. Hills, a daughter of E. E. and Myra Elizabeth (Yale) Hills, of Independence. One daughter has been born of this union: Mildred Elizabeth. The Rood family residence is located at 133 West Sea avenue.

Mr. Rood's grandfather Troup was reared in Illinois, and was an early settler in Bates County, Missouri. He died when past 80 years of age, while on his way from Missouri to Oklahoma, and his remains are interred in the Appleton City cemetery.

**Charles P. McCumber**, grocery and meat market proprietor, 113 South Main street, Independence, was born in Carroll County, Missouri, Feb. 11, 1872. He is a son of George S. and Elizabeth (Henry) McCumber, both of whom are deceased.

George S. McCumber was a native of Scotland, who settled in Meigs County, Ohio, some years prior to the Civil War. He enlisted in the Union Army soon after the outbreak of the Civil War, and served as drummer boy for three years as a soldier in the Fourth West Virginia regiment, which was recruited from the towns on both sides of the Ohio River in Ohio and West Virginia. After the close of the war he came to Missouri, resided for some years in Carroll County, and later located at Junction City, Kan., where both he and his wife died. Their children were as follow: James was accidentally drowned at Carrollton, Mo., at the age of 32 years; Mrs. Rebecca Ellsworth, Junction City, Kan.; Mrs. Kate McCorkle, Seattle, Wash.; Mrs. Mary White, Seattle, Wash.; Alonzo McCumber, Junction City, Kan.; Charles P., of this review; Anna, wife of G. B. Henry, Junction City, Kan., and George S., deceased.

After attending school in Carroll County and Junction City, Kan., Charles P. McCumber learned the trade of butcher and meat cutter at



Junction City, Kan., and operated a shop for nine years prior to locating in Independence, Sept. 15, 1914. Mr. McCumber opened a market at the corner of Lexington and Union streets, which he operated for four years, and then, in 1917, he located his business at 113 South Main street, where he has one of the largest and best patronized establishments in the city. A room, 25x80 feet, is fully stocked with a line of the best groceries and provisions, and he operates a meat market in connection. Four sales people are employed to care for the extensive trade.

Mr. McCumber was married in 1894 to Minnie Ball, of Carrollton, Mo., a daughter of Thomas A. and Elizabeth (Gentry) Ball, the former living at Carrollton, and the latter of whom is deceased. Three children have been born to this marriage: Charles T., died at the age of four months; Harry, assisting his father in the store; May and Arthur, at home.

The McCumber family reside at 600 South Liberty street, Independence. Mr. McCumber is a member of the Loyal Order of Moose and the Modern Woodmen of America.

**James W. Renick**, farmer and dairyman, Blue township, was born in Jackson County, July 19, 1879, on the farm now owned by Mrs. Marie Powell, of Lees Summit. He is a son of William H. and Addie (Wilcox) Renick, both deceased, the former dying on March 22, 1918, and the latter in 1890.

William H. Renick was born in Blue township in 1844, and was a son of Abraham and Melvina (Reed) Renick, the former of whom was born in Lexington, Ky., and came to Jackson County in 1842. He entered land, developed his farm, and plied his trade of gunsmith until after the close of the Civil War. He became the owner of 205 acres of land, all of which was divided among his children, who were as follow: Mrs. Sallie Rollins, of Blue township; William H.; Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Martin, deceased; Mrs. Louise Westmoreland, deceased.

William H. Renick became owner of 155 acres of land in Blue township, 60 acres of which are now owned by J. W. Renick, of this sketch. The children born to William H. and Addie (Wilcox) Renick are: J. W. Renick, of this sketch; Mrs. Minnie Kimball, of Olathe, Kan.; Mrs. Marie Powell, of Lees Summit.

J. W. Renick attended the Pitcher District School, and Woodland College, Independence, Mo., and studied under Prof. George Bryant. He has always followed farming, and of late has engaged in dairying. The Renick dairy herd consists of 20 cows.

James W. Renick was married April 19, 1902, to Miss Mary Green,





WILLIAM H. RENICK.



MRS. ADDIE (WILCON) RENICK.



of Blue township. She is a daughter of Gilbert Green. Mr. and Mrs. Renick have two children: Howard and James, Jr. .

Mr. Renick is a member of the Woodmen of the World and the Modern Brotherhood of America. He is an industrious, capable citizen, who is modest and unassuming, and of the true Missouri type, descended from pioneer ancestors.

**D. C. Halleran**, proprietor of a carriage, repair and shoeing shop at 116 East Maple street, Independence, Mo., was born in St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 8, 1858, and is a son of Patrick and Nora (Halleran) Halleran, both of whom were natives of Ireland. His father died of cholera in 1866, at St. Louis, Mo., while aboard a steamboat. His mother died in 1862. The Halleran family, of which the subject of this sketch is a member, is the same as the Hallinan family of Canada. The ancestry is the same, the discrepancy in spelling being the result of lack of knowledge of the family name and origin on the part of D. C. Hallinan, who being left an orphan at a tender age, was not aware of the exact spelling of his name in his younger days. A trip to Canada and a visit among his relatives who lived there enlightened E. J. Halleran in this regard. Patrick and Nora Halleran were the parents of two children: D. C., the subject of this review, and E. J. Halleran, who died at the age of 56 years. He married Nannia Crutchfield, who is also deceased. They left three children: Claude, Westport, Mo.; Marie, living in Texas, and Marcella, Westport, Mo.

Left an orphan in boyhood, D. C. Halleran was sent to an Irish settlement in Saline County, Missouri, and was placed in the home of a family named Condon. The treatment accorded him not being to his liking, he ran away at the age of 10 years, in order to get a chance to attend school. From this time on he made his own way. At Waverly, Mo., he lived with a family from Virginia for two years, and was then reared to maturity on a farm, in the home of kind people named Rollins. They regarded him as one of the family, and gave him the same advantages as were enjoyed by their own children. When 18 years old, he began to learn the blacksmith trade, and worked in Landrum Brothers shop at Waverly for three years. He operated a shop at Mt. Leonard and also spent one winter at Odessa. From this place he went to Lees Summit, and worked for Richard Hall, a brother-in-law of Cole Younger, and was also in the employ of Edgar Whiting of that place. From Lees Summit he went to Lone Jack and bought a shop there, and operated it for three years. He then ran a shop at Westport for six months, sold out, and for six years was a successful life insurance salesman. In July, 1889, Mr. Halleran came to Inde-



pendence, and purchased the Russell Hardware and Carriage Shop. While here he ran for councilman, and was defeated for the office by but one vote. He traded his shop for a Kansas farm, and then traded the farm off and again went into the insurance business. He purchased his present building in 1897, and conducted the leading carriage shop in the city until 1916. Automobiles having crowded the carriage making industry into the background, he has taken up general repair work, painting and trimming, etc.

Mr. Halleran was married March 4, 1889, at Clinton, Mo., to Miss Gerty Gaffney, who was born in 1869, a daughter of William and Anna Gaffney. Mrs. Halleran died in 1910, leaving children as follow: Ella, at home; Edna May, a Red Cross nurse at Baltimore, Md.; Norman Aubrey died while in the service of his country at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Sept. 22, 1918, having enlisted in December, 1917, and left home Feb. 28, 1918, and died as a result of an attack of influenza, when 24 years old; Hazel is a stenographer in Kansas City; Fern is also a stenographer employed in Kansas City; Anna and Catherine are attending Independence High School; Dorothy is attending the public school.

Mr. Halleran is a member of the Knights of Pythias, becoming affiliated with the order in 1895, and in 1900 filled the office of chancellor commander. He has served as chairman of the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a charter member of the Royal Neighbors and the Pythian Sisters. The Halleran family residence is at 315 North Main street.

**T. W. Milner**, cafe and restaurant proprietor, located at 119 East Lexington street, who has been engaged in business in Independence since 1894, was born in Cass County, Illinois, March 17, 1859. He is a son of Richard and Hannah (Wood) Milner, both of whom are deceased. Both were natives of England, Richard Milner having been born in Lancashire, and Hannah Milner was born in Yorkshire. They were married in Morgan County, Illinois. Richard Milner was a wood worker by trade. The children born to Richard and Hannah Milner are as follow: Mrs. Rebecca Wroe, Brookfield, Mo.; T. W., subject of this review; Mary Milner, Beardstown, Ill.; Mrs. Rosa Cardwell, Beardstown, Ill.; and Mrs. Margaret Dixon, widow of Dr. Dixon, formerly a dentist.

T. W. Milner was educated in the public schools of Beardstown, Ill. For 17 years he was in the employ of the Baltimore and Ohio and the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroads, and was also in the employ of the Missouri Pacific and the Northwestern railroads. In 1894 he opened a restaurant on the east side of the public square in Independence. In De-

ember, 1902, he moved to another location on West Lexington street. In 1919 Mr. Milner erected a new brick building at 119 East Lexington, where he has one of the best restaurants to be found anywhere in a city of this size. Mr. Milner makes a specialty of having good things to eat, as his hundreds of customers will testify.

Mr. Milner was married Feb. 23, 1893, to Mollie A. Worden, a daughter of Thaddeus and Mary A. (Stone) Worden, the former of whom was a native of Howard County, and the latter a native of Moniteau County. Capt. William H. Worden, of the Confederate Army, was an uncle of Mrs. Milner, and his grandson, Horace Worden, was killed in France while fighting with the American forces in the World War. Thaddeus Worden died in September, 1901. Mrs. Worden died in 1911. Both are buried at Lees Summit. The children of the Worden family are: J. H., died at the age of 60 years; Mrs. Fannie C. Groh, Lees Summit, Mo.; W. S., superintendent of Swope Park, Kansas City; T. J., Kansas City; Mrs. T. W. Milner, subject of this sketch; Mrs. Nannie J. Head, Kansas City; B. S. Worden, Ventura, Calif.; Mrs. Belle O. Chrisman, Independence.

Mr. and Mrs. Milner reside at 119 East Lexington street. Mr. Milner is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Lodge No. 1302, Independence, of which lodge he is a charter member.

**Edgar L. Cook**, of the grocery firm of Bridges, Gray and Cook, 119 South Main street, Independence, Mo., was born in Vernon County, Missouri, in 1888, and is a son of M. J. and Belle (Holloway) Cook.

M. J. Cook was a native of Jackson County, born on a farm where he now resides on the Blue Springs road, in 1857. Mrs. Belle Cook was born in Jackson County in 1857. After their marriage, M. J. Cook and wife removed to Galena, Kan., and resided there for ten years, then went to Vernon County, Missouri, and lived there for ten years, prior to returning to the old home in Jackson County. Enoch J. Cook, grandfather of Edgar L. Cook, was a Jackson County pioneer, whose property was destroyed by Federal troops during the Civil War. When Order No. 11 was issued in 1863, the family went to Clay County, Missouri, and remained there until the close of the war. Enoch Cook served in the Confederate Army during the war, and died in 1892. M. J. Cook and wife are the parents of eight children: J. L. Cook, a grocer in Independence, owner of Cook's Market; Edna died when three years of age; Mrs. Eva Reick, Independence, Mo.; Grover C., Independence; Edgar L., of this review; Enoch J., deceased; Izola Cook, a teacher at Tarsney, Mo.; Anna Cook, at home.

Edgar L. Cook attended the public schools at Hume, Mo., and there



learned the trade of meat cutter, under his father and brothers. He became connected with the firm of Bridges, Gray and Cook, having come to Independence in 1897, and was formerly engaged in the grocery business with his father. He was married in 1913 to Miss Edna Winfrey, of Independence, a daughter of John and Harriet Winfrey, the former of whom is deceased, and the latter lives in Montana. Mr. and Mrs. Cook have a son, Marrian, aged four years. Mr. Cook is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Loyal Order of Moose.

The beginning of the grocery store of Bridges, Gray and Cook occurred in 1898, when W. D. Bullard purchased the stock of goods formerly owned by the Peoples Union Mercantile Company. Shortly afterward, W. J. Bullard, his son, became a member of the firm, which was then doing business at 114 South Main street. For five years the store was operated under the name of Bullard and Gray. In 1917 the store was moved to its present location, at 119 South Main street, and the firm of Bridges, Gray and Cook was formed, composed of Edgard L. Cook, James L. Gray and W. C. Bridges. Nine people are employed to care for the extensive trade enjoyed by this enterprising and successful firm.

**Christian Yetter.**—The firm of Yetter and McBride, contractors and builders, is an important one in the industrial life of Independence, and was organized in 1916. Christian Yetter, the senior member of this firm, is one of the oldest and most successful contractors in this section of Missouri. He has erected more important buildings in the city and surrounding country territory than any other individual contractor, and did his work honestly and well. Mr. Yetter was born in Wittenburg, Germany, in 1847, the son of Matthew and Anna Yetter. He immigrated to America in 1866, and located at Hermann, Mo., where he resided for nearly five years. In 1870 he located in Kansas City, and was employed at the carpenter trade under Hook and Rollard, contractors and builders, for one year. In 1871 he came to Independence and assisted in the razing of the old court house. In 1876 he began contracting on his own account, his first contract being the erection of the buildings on the Beets farm, near Atherton. In 1918 he erected another building for Mr. Beets on this same farm, the latter building being a modern brick residence, one of the finest country homes in Jackson County. Mr. Yetter has built many wooden and iron bridges in the county during his long career, many of them across the Blue, between Independence and Kansas City. He erected the bridge across the Little Blue in Sniabar township, and has built in all over 150 bridges in Jackson County during his 43 years as contractor.



Mr. Yetter built five miles of concrete highway on the Santa Fe trail, now a part of the Lexington road. This was the first concrete road built in Jackson County, but not the first rock road, however, the first road of this class having been built by the citizens of the county from Independence to Wayne City in the old steamboat days. He also graded the road from Independence to Blue Springs, preparatory to macadamizing. Yetter and McBride have the contract at present for enclosing the Independence Christian Church, which was damaged by fire Feb. 22, 1918, the walls alone being left standing. Mr. Yetter erected the old Ott school house, the Library building, the Columbia school, the present city hall, the Presbyterian Church, the Masonic building, the finest in the city, and he also built the McCune Home for Boys, the McCune school, the Jackson County Girls Home and the power plant for the Jackson County Home.

Mr. Yetter was married in 1873 to Miss Katie Helmig, of Independence, a daughter of Casper and Anna Helmig, deceased, who were the parents of the following children: Mrs. Katie Yetter, Mrs. Louise Polmeier, Mrs. Christian Fairman and Charles Helmig. Mr. and Mrs. Yetter have three children: William, a carpenter, Independence, Mo.; Frank, a photographer, Tulsa, Okla.; Russell, at home with his parents. For the past 40 years the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Yetter has been at 202 East Kansas street.

Isaac N. White, Evangelist-Patriarch in the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, was born in Lawrence County, Ohio, Dec. 27, 1841. He is a son of Almon and Mary (Birk) White, the former of whom was a native of Gallia County, Ohio, and the latter also a native of Ohio. Mr. Almon White was a son of Alfred White, a native of New York, who was a pioneer settler of Gallia County, Ohio. When Isaac N. White was a boy 14 years of age his parents moved to Daviess County, Missouri, and purchased a large farm in that county. When the Civil War began he joined the Missouri State Militia under Colonel McFarren, a commander of Federal troops, and was a member of Company B, serving in the Union Army under Captain Falmsbee for two years and eight months in all. He received an honorable discharge from the army on account of infirmities brought on by exposure, was brought home, and died soon after his arrival. His remains were buried at Gallatin, Mo. Alfred White, grandfather of Isaac N. White, made the long trip overland to Oregon in 1848, founded a home there in the wilderness, assisted in the development of the State, and died there in his 76th year. Mrs. Mary (Birk) White died at Newton, Jasper County, Iowa, and her remains were interred in the

cemetery at that place. The children of Almon and Mary (Birk) White are as follow: Mrs. Sarah L. McVay, wife of James W. McVay, died in Independence, Mo., in 1916; Alfred, a retired merchant, Independence, Mo.; Mary Ann, wife of B. A. Atwell, died in Independence in 1918; Isaac N., of this review; Prof. S. E. White, for 30 years taught school in the South, resides in Georgia; Lucinda J., widow of W. S. Loar, resides in Independence; T. R. White, a merchant and farm owner, Lowery City, Mo.; Elizabeth, widow of William McConnell, lives in Nebraska; Eliza H., wife of Henry Macauley, Oakland, Calif.; W. A. O. White, Independence, has been blind since boyhood.

Isaac N. White received his primary education in the public schools of Missouri and Iowa, and studied for one year in the Gallatin, Mo., Academy. He then taught a number of terms of school in Missouri and Iowa. After pursuing a course of study in Bowen's College, Hopkinton, Iowa, he again taught school and completed his education in Western College, Iowa. This college at that time was under the control of the United Brethren Church denomination. Mr. White taught school in Iowa until 1868, and then became interested in the religious doctrines of the Latter Day Saints and joined this sect. Since becoming a member of his church he has spent the past half century and more in the ministry of his church. Rev. White has preached the gospel according to his belief in many parts of the United States, and for 16 years was associated with the "Quorum of Twelve" of his church, and was minister in general charge of what was known among their people as Mission No. 2, comprising Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Kansas, Missouri and Central and Southern Illinois.

Mr. White was ordained a priest on Aug. 9, 1868, at Newton, Iowa. He was ordained an elder at Newton, Iowa, on Oct. 23, 1870. He was ordained as president of the Second Quorum of Elders on April 14, 1884, at Stewartsville, Mo. He was ordained a Seventy at Lamoni, Iowa, on April 10, 1886; ordained one of the Presidency of Seventy at Independence, Mo., April 12, 1888; ordained an Apostle at Lamoni, Iowa, April 12, 1897; ordained Evangelist-Patriarch, April 19, 1913, at Lamoni, Iowa. Most of these ordinations took place at their World's General Conferences.

Mr. White was united in marriage with Emily Trussel, in Jasper County, Iowa, on Aug. 16, 1865. This marriage has been blessed with 11 children: Alfred Delbert, resides at Tidwell Station, Jackson County, is engaged in real estate in Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Eva E. Custead, Independence, Mo.; Mrs. Cora E. Tonnahill, Independence, Mo.; Ammon, engaged in evangelistic work for the Latter-Day Saints Church, and now



located for missionary work at Boise, Idaho; O. C. White, owner of the "Lone Pine Farm," north of Independence, is in the automobile manufacturing business in Kansas City, Mo.; Mark Sherman White, known as "The Candy Man," who built up and conducted a wholesale candy business during the last 19 or 20 years in Independence, Mo., has now retired from that business, and lives in Independence; Capt. Isaac N. White, the soldier of the family; Corda Leona, wife of George Hulmes, banker, Independence, Mo., has been musical director of the Stone Church for the past four years; Monnie Fay, wife of B. C. Johnson, Savanna, Ill., her husband being in charge of the railway shops in Savanna; Bessie Emma died when three years of age; Helen died at the age of four years.

Capt. Isaac N. White, an attorney at law, enlisted in the United States Army in 1917, and attended the officers training camp at Camp Sheridan. He was commissioned a first lieutenant, and was then sent to Camp Gordon, Georgia, and there received his captains commission. He was retained at Camp Gordon as an instructor, and served for two years in the army during the World War. He is now located at Akron, Ohio.

For the past 28 years Mr. White has resided at 1006 Maple street. His long life has been well spent in behalf of the souls of his fellow men. Mr. White has not only been of great use to his fellow men during his long and active career as a minister of the gospel, but he has reared a large and splendid family of sons and daughters who occupy high places in the civic and business life of their respective communities. As a minister he has much to his credit; as a citizen he ranks among the best in the world. Had he done no more than to have reared his large family to maturity, this aged gentlemen would have won a high place in the annals of his adopted county and city.

T. W. Clay, proprietor of the Clay-Oakland Motor Company, 306 West Maple street, Independence, Mo., was born in Shelby county, Mo., Jan. 6, 1882. He is a son of John M. and Sarah (Barton) Clay, both of whom were natives of Shelby County.

John M. Clay now resides at Clarence, Mo. He is a son of John Clay, who came from Kentucky and settled in Shelby County in pioneer days. He was a full cousin of Henry Clay, the famous statesman, and was a successful practicing attorney, who was often consulted by his kinsman, the statesman. Sarah (Barton) Clay died at Clarence, Mo., Oct. 6, 1913. The children born to John M. and Sarah (Barton) Clay are as follow: Mrs. Gertie Chinn, Clarence, Mo.; Mrs. Virginia Bruce, Argentine, Kan.; H. M. Clay, Independence; Mrs. L. M. Chinn, Clarence, Mo.; J. G. Clay, soldier in



the regular army of the United States, first enlisted in Kansas City in 1912, served one year in France as military policeman, and is now stationed at Newport News, Va. He served four years in the Philippines.

The education of T. W. Clay was obtained in the public schools of Lentner, Mo. When he was 18 years old he came to Kansas City and entered high school, paying his way through school by carrying the newspapers. After completing the high school course he worked his way through Central Business College. For ten years he was with the circulation department of the Kansas City "Star." For two years he had charge of the circulation department of the Kansas City "Post." Leaving the "Post" he held a similar position on the staff of the Indianapolis "Daily Times" for two and a half years. His next position was with the New York "Evening Mail," as circulation manager for three years, resigning this position to associate himself as retail manager of the Kansas Oakland Automobile Company, with E. W. Arrowsmith. Eighteen months later he took the agency for the Oakland automobile and the Scripps-Booth at Independence, Mo., Feb. 1, 1910. Mr. Clay caters to the Oakland trade only, and during the past season has done over \$100,000 worth of business.

Mr. Clay was married in April, 1906, to Miss Daisy Winters, of Kansas City, Mo., a daughter of W. J. Winters. The Clay family residence is located at 309 River boulevard. Mr. Clay is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

**August E. Ahmann**, retired farmer, residing at 420 North Liberty street, Independence, Mo., was born in Warren County, Mo., Feb. 5, 1864. He is a son of Frederick J. and Caroline (Schuster) Ahmann, both of whom were natives of Warren County.

Frederick J. Ahmann was born Aug. 13, 1837, and his wife, Caroline, was born June 6, 1840. Frederick was the son of Jacob Ahmann, who emigrated from Germany to America about 1832, and located in Warren County, Mo., purchasing a farm near Marthasville, where he resided until his death, in 1864. He was a Republican, and voted for Abraham Lincoln. Frederick J. Ahmann still lives on his farm in Warren County, and is now 82 years of age. Mrs. Ahmann is over 79 years old. They are the parents of the following children: August E., subject of this sketch; Louis, St. Louis, Mo.; Frank, St. Charles, Mo.; John, a merchant and grain dealer at Marthasville, Mo.; Emma, wife of William Schoppenhorst, on the home place in Warren County.

August E. Ahmann lived in his native county until 1895. In March of that year he came to Jackson County, and purchased the Jacob Zum-



A. E. AHMANN, WIFE AND SON.





walt place of 100 acres, three miles north of Levasy, in Fort Osage township. He next bought 100 acres more, making 200 acres in all in the Ahmann farm. Mr. Ahmann improved his acreage with a handsome, two-story residence, and built up a fine farm, which he successfully cultivated until 1915, when he removed to a home in Independence. The Ahmann farm consists principally of Missouri River bottom land, and is situated three-fourths of a mile from the old Matthews steamboat landing on the Missouri. Mr. Ahmann purchased the William Bridges residence, on Liberty street, upon his removal to the city.

Mr. Ahmann was married Feb. 21, 1895, to Amelia Knoepker, of Warren County, a daughter of William and Minnie (Schowerngerdt) Knoepker, both of whom died in Warren County. Mr. and Mrs. Ahmann have one son, Elmer, aged 18 years, who was born in Jackson County, and is a student in Independence High School.

Mr. and Mrs. Ahmann are members of the Evangelical church of Independence, and he is a Republican.

**Dr. Charles W. Fuchs**, jeweler and optician, was born in Cooper County, Missouri, in 1854. He was a son of Conrad and Henrietta Fuchs, both of whom are deceased. Conrad Fuchs died on his farm near Pilot Grove, Mo., in 1857, and his widow died in Boonville, Mo., several years later, in 1870. Dr. Fuchs has a sister, Nettie Fuchs, living at Appleton City, Mo.

Dr. Fuchs received his professional education at the Southwestern Optical College, and the Chicago Optical College, and the St. Louis Optical College, and is thoroughly grounded in the science of his profession. He learned the trade of jeweler in St. Louis, Mo. He followed the jewelry and optical business at Fayette, Mo., for 30 years prior to locating in Independence, in 1900. He opened a store on the south side of the square, and in 1904 he purchased the building now occupied by Betts Brothers jewelry store, and the Cook and Dillingham shoe store.

Dr. Fuchs occupies the upper floor with his optical offices and stock of optical goods. Since taking possession of this building, which was erected in about 1840, he has thoroughly remodeled it and converted it into a modern business structure. It is now one of the imposing buildings of the city. This building is of decided historical interest. It is three stories in height, the third story having been used in former days as the lodge room of the Masons and Odd Fellows, probably one of the first meeting places of the Masons in the city.

The father of William Z. Hickman, author of this history, sawed the timbers used in the construction of the Fuchs building, and the frames were

fastened together with wooden pins. Rooms on the second floor are being fitted up for a photograph gallery, and the third floor is being refitted for lodge purposes. Mr. Jones erected this building and also built the Jones Hotel adjoining, about 80 years ago.

Dr. Fuchs was married in 1882 to Mary H. Tieman, of Fayette, Mo., a daughter of William F. and Helen Tieman, pioneers of Howard County, Missouri. Mrs. Tieman is deceased. Mr. Tieman resides in Fayette, and is over 89 years of age. He has two sons, Edward Charles and Charles Edward Tieman, the latter of whom is a jeweler and optician at California, Mo., and the former is employed in the pension department at Washington, D. C.

Dr. Fuchs and wife have a daughter, Carrie Helen, wife of E. K. Crow, of Independence. Prior to her marriage Mrs. Crow taught school in Independence and Kansas City for seven years. Two sons of Dr. Fuchs, Edward and Harry, died in infancy. Dr. and Mrs. Fuchs reside at 211 South Pleasant street.

Dr. Fuchs is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America.

**James Leroy Campbell**, founder and proprietor of the Independence Radiator Company, 218 West Lexington street, Independence, Mo., had the right idea when he decided that there was a pressing demand for expert radiator repair men, and accordingly spent several years in learning all about radiators, how to repair them and how to build them. His success since opening up his shop, in November, 1919, is ample evidence that his place is filling a long-felt want among automobile owners in this vicinity. One of Mr. Campbell's specialties is the installation of the government's appliance for the prevention of the freezing and bursting of radiators in extremely cold weather. He uses the identical methods of fixing radiators so as to prevent their freezing as is used on the airplanes. The plan provides for perfect radiation at all times regardless of the weather conditions.

Mr. Campbell was born in Jackson County, Dec. 11, 1897, and is a son of Robert Thomas and Louise (Taber) Campbell, his mother belonging to a Jackson County pioneer family. At the time of the great flood in 1903, Thomas Campbell resided on a farm in the east bottoms. He is now employed as chief engineer at the Heims Brewery, Kansas City, Mo. He was born in 1876. The children of the Campbell family are: James Leroy, of this sketch, and Ruth Elizabeth.

After attending the Kansas City public schools and graduating from the Jackson school, James L. Campbell learned the trade of radiator re-



pairing and copper working at the O. K. Auto Radiator Company's plant, Kansas City, Mo. For five years he remained in the employ of this concern, and learned his trade thoroughly and well. From May, 1914, to March 15, 1915, he worked for \$8.00 per week, and put in from 10 to 16 hours each day while learning his trade. He then received \$10 per week for several months. His desire was to learn to fix radiators right and be able to do his work thoroughly. For two months during the World War he was instructor at the Rahe Army Automobile School, and was with this school when the armistice was signed. In November, 1919, Mr. Campbell came to Independence and established his shop at 218 West Lexington street. He sells new radiators and fixes old ones.

Mr. Campbell was married April 16, 1917, to Florence Scrom, a native of New York, but living in Kansas City at the time of her marriage. She is a daughter of Swart and Hattie (Casey) Scrom, the former of whom is deceased, and the latter resides at 703 Belmont, Kansas City. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have a daughter, Louise Roberta. They reside at 703 Belmont, Kansas City. Their postoffice address, however, is Independence, Mo. Mr. Campbell is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Heroine Lodge No. 104.

**The Independence Laundry Company**, at 115 South Osage street, employs from 32 to 40 people to handle the immense volume of work done in the plant. This laundry is thoroughly equipped with modern machinery, and is the last thing in up-to-date equipment. The ventilation system is excellent and the building is so arranged that the daylight available for all departments is equal to that of a photograph gallery. The light comes practically all from the south side of the building, affording plenty of fresh air, sunshine and ventilation, one of the essential features of a well conducted laundry establishment. A boiler of 100 horse power furnishes the steam for plant operation, and three ventilating fans bring an inrush of fresh air constantly into the building. The drivers room is located downstairs, and the clean bundles of newly finished laundry never come in contact with the incoming bundles of soiled clothing. Family washings are given special attention, and are as carefully looked after as they would be in the home.

The efficient manager of the Independence Steam Laundry has had 18 years experience, having been in charge for over a year past, coming to his present position from Kansas City. He was associated in the laundry business in Marshall, Mo., going from Marshall to Kansas City, Mo.

An immense water softener, as large as a silo, changes the hard water



to soft, by the latest scientific methods. Great care is taken in the operation of the machinery of the establishment, so as to avoid tearing or damaging the fabrics washed.

During the past year the business has increased greatly in volume, an indication that the people of Independence thoroughly appreciate the manner in which the work is done. The Independence Laundry is one of the busiest places in Independence, and one of the city's most essential industries.

**Ellis Short**, wholesale lumber manufacturer and banker, Independence, Mo., was born near Indianapolis, Ind. His parents were Washington and Elizabeth (Polk) Short. He is descended on his mother's side from the well known families of Polk and Tyler, his mother having been a niece of both President Polk and President Tyler. She was also a niece of Calvin McCoy, a Baptist minister, who spent most of his life as a missionary among the Indians of the Wyandotte and Delaware tribes. In later years he had much to do with the laying out of Kansas City, where for many years he had his headquarters while attending to his mission work among the Indians. On the paternal side, Ellis Short was related to Elder McQuail, who, with the assistance of Elder Alexander Diven, from Columbia, organized the first Baptist Church in Indiana. His father was a minister of the Christian Church for 40 years; but in the year 1868 he became intensely interested in the preaching of the Latter Day Saints. For several years he examined closely their doctrine, and finally connected himself with this church and was ordained a minister.

In his boyhood days, Ellis Short attended the public schools of Indiana and Iowa, and in these schools obtained the education which fitted him to become a successful man of affairs. His father owned and operated several large freighting outfits, and in the year of 1863, while Ellis Short was still a boy, his enterprising spirit led him to make an overland trip from Atchison, Kan., to Denver, Colo. The train of 40 wagons with which he was traveling, was attacked by Indians at O'Fallon's Bluff, 200 miles east of Denver, Colo., and but for the timely arrival of a squadron of soldiers, the party would doubtless have been annihilated. In 1877 he went to near Tuskahoma, the capital of the Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory, now Oklahoma, where for 14 years he was engaged in the wholesale lumber business, and was also a licensed trader and merchant among the Choctaws and Chickasaws, his partner in this venture being W. R. Pickering, member of the well known firm, The W. R. Pickering Lumber Company. In 1887 Ellis Short located permanently in Independence, Mo. He became one of

the charter members of the Jackson County Bank, which was organized some time after his advent in this city, and was its president for years. He is a bishop of the Latter Day Saints Church, and discharged the duties connected with that office in the territory where he had charge, acceptably to his church. Bishop Short has two children, Mrs. Dr. Amos Henry Baldwin, of Pleasant Hill, Mo., and Ellis Short, Jr., of Independence, Mo.

**Lemuel C. Maddox**, cashier of the Citizens Security Bank, of Englewood, was born in Callaway County, Missouri, April 23, 1896. He is a son of Jefferson M. and Eliza (Crump) Maddox, who reside near Fulton, in Callaway County.

Mr. Maddox was educated in the public schools and McGee College, College Mound, Mo., and Collegiate Institute, Clarence, Mo., after which he studied for one year at Gem City Business College. In June, 1915, he located in Kansas City, and was in the employ of the Commerce Trust Company, the New England National Bank, and for a short time was assistant cashier of the Park National Bank prior to his election as cashier of the Citizens Security Bank.

Mr. Maddox was married June 17, 1916, to Ada Belle, a daughter of George W. and Tura Morris, who reside at Jacksonville, Mo. Mrs. Maddox was born in Huntsville, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Maddox have a daughter, Margaret Louise. They reside at the corner of Eighteenth and Hedges streets.

**A. C. Watkins**, president of the Citizens Security Bank of Englewood, Mo., is a native of Macon County, Missouri. His parents were J. F. and L. A. (Younger) Watkins. He was educated in McGee College and Kansas City University, graduating with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1916. He received his degree after having been away from the university for 13 years. Mr. Watkins came to Jackson County in 1905, and was with the National Bank of Commerce for some time, and then engaged in country banking. For three years he owned the Bank of Raytown, and in 1914 he became connected with the City Bank of Kansas City, and is also interested in the Central Exchange National Bank of Kansas City. Mr. Watkins spends part of his time at Englewood. He organized the College Mound Security Bank of Macon County, and is still interested in this bank, which is located in his old home town.

Mr. Watkins was married to Bessie L. Beck, a daughter of George W. and Patience (Abney) Beck, of Miami, Okla., in 1916. They have one son, A. C. Watkins, Jr. The Watkins family residence is located at 3510 Victor street, Kansas City, Mo.

The Citizens Security Bank, Englewood Station, postoffice Independ-



ence, Mo., rural route No. 6, was organized February 22, 1919, by the following well known citizens: A. C. Watkins, president; J. K. Hoover, vice-president; L. C. Maddox, cashier; L. M. Baker, L. C. Browning, O. J. Hill, L. E. Holland, J. K. Hoover, L. C. Maddox, Oscar Mindrup, E. E. Morquist, A. C. Watkins, directors. The capital stock of this bank is \$10,000. The deposits at this writing, December, 1919, will exceed \$60,000. This concern transacts a general banking business and fire, tornado and automobile insurance is handled by the bank officers. This bank has a splendid future. Englewood is situated on the electric line between Kansas City and Independence, and is a thriving district, which is destined to grow in importance from a business standpoint. The territory served by the bank has a population of over 3,000 inhabitants.

George W. Corey, treasurer of the Home Deposit Trust Company, Independence, Mo., is a native of Iowa. He was born March 20, 1867, in Greenwood County, Iowa, and is a son of George H. and Julia V. (Bailey) Corey.

One year after the birth of George W. Corey, the family removed from Iowa to Jasper County, Missouri, and resided there until the death of the father, at Carthage, in 1875. The widow and her mother, Mrs. Mary Bailey, resided in Carthage until 1888, and then came to Lees Summit, Mo., where she died. Mrs. Corey died in 1894. Two sons were born to George H. and Julia V. Corey, as follow: George W. Corey, of this review, and Harry E., a contractor, Maxwell City, N. M. Mr. Corey has a half-brother, Hiram W. Corey, a banker at Bristow, Okla. He also has a half-sister, Mrs. Minnie Maxwell, who died in 1918.

Since he attained the age of 17 years, George W. Corey has been self-supporting, and his position in the financial world of this section of Missouri has been won, solely, through his own efforts. He learned railway telegraphy at Lees Summit, and followed that work for 18 years. For four years Mr. Corey served as deputy county treasurer, under A. C. Warner. He was employed in the lumber business at Lees Summit for over one year, and has been connected with the Home Deposit Trust Company since its organization in 1910. From August, 1910, to July, 1918, Mr. Corey served as secretary of the Deposit Trust Company, and then became treasurer of the organization.

Mr. Corey was married in 1888 to Miss Dora Fearman, of Lees Summit, Mo., a daughter of Rebecca J. Fearman, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Corey have a daughter, Gladys Corey. They reside at 119 West Sea avenue.

Mr. Corey is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, the Loyal Order



of Moose, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and the Modern Woodmen of America. He has an interesting relic of early days in his possession, in the way of a teacher's certificate issued to his grandmother, Mrs. Mary (Manahan) Bailey, in England, April 12, 1824. This teacher's certificate is written in long hand and signed by "P. Manahan, Instructor of Youth." He also has another certificate, dated April 17, 1824, and signed by "Stephen Chase, Teacher of Youth."

**Robert L. McBride**, member of the firm of Yetter and McBride, contractors and builders, Independence, Mo., is one of the most successful men in his line in Jackson County. Since early manhood he has been a builder and contractor, and has built up a splendid reputation as an honest and trustworthy artisan, who gives and works for just pay. During years of contracting both he and his partner, Christian Yetter, prior to their forming the present partnership, in 1917, erected some of the finest buildings in Jackson County. Mr. McBride is a native of Jackson County. He was born at Norwood, Blue township, May 6, 1864, and is a son of William E. and Minerva (Dresser) McBride.

William E. McBride, his father, was formerly one of the best known of the early contractors in Jackson County. He was born at Harrodsburg, Ky., and died in Independence, in 1906. Mrs. Minerva (Dresser) McBride was born in Portage County, Ohio, in 1826, and died in 1899. Their children were as follow: Charles H., born 1849, died at the age of 45 years; Clara, wife of T. J. Beale, Kansas City; Kittie, wife of James A. Stayton, living south of Independence, a sketch of whom appears in this volume; Robert L., of this sketch; Bettie, deceased; Oliver L., in the employ of the Doherty Corporation, and located at the Doherty Electric and Power Company's plant, Lake Taneycomo, Mo. William E. McBride established the first nursery in west Missouri, at Norwood, Mo., in the early forties, which he operated for some years, and then began his career as a contractor and builder in Independence and Jackson County. He and James Carpenter erected the old Noland Hotel in 1846, and in 1907 Robert L. McBride, remodeled the building, which is now known as the Clinton Block.

Robert L. McBride attended the Rock Creek district school in his boyhood days. Yetter and McBride built a new school house for the Rock Creek district to take the place of the old school in which Mr. McBride had obtained his primary education. Mr. McBride also studied at Woodland College, Independence. He learned the trade of carpenter and builder under his father's tutelage, and when 18 years of age he began his own career as a carpenter. In 1899 he began contracting on his own account,

and the first residence which he built was for James McCormick, at the corner of River boulevard and College street. He erected the Mize-Peters drug store, the Farmers Bank at Buckner, the Home Deposit Trust Company building, and has built over 100 residences in Independence. He also erected the Benton school house, and drew the plans and superintended the building of the city hall. Mr. McBride erected the Bryant and McCoy school buildings, the first school house at Sugar Creek, and the Grain Valley High School. This firm is at present rebuilding the Christian Church.

Robert L. McBride was married in July, 1897, to Miss Maud Stella Anderson, a daughter of Thomas and Kate (Kimsey) Anderson, the latter a daughter of Samuel Kimsey, who was a pioneer settler in Fort Osage township. Five children have been born to this marriage: Robert, Bessie, Martha, Helen and Dudley.

Robert McBride served as corporal with Battery C, 129th Artillery regiment, commanded by Major E. M. Stayton, on the Mexican border. He died while in the service, death resulting from an operation for appendicitis, July 14, 1916, and his remains were interred in Woodlawn cemetery.

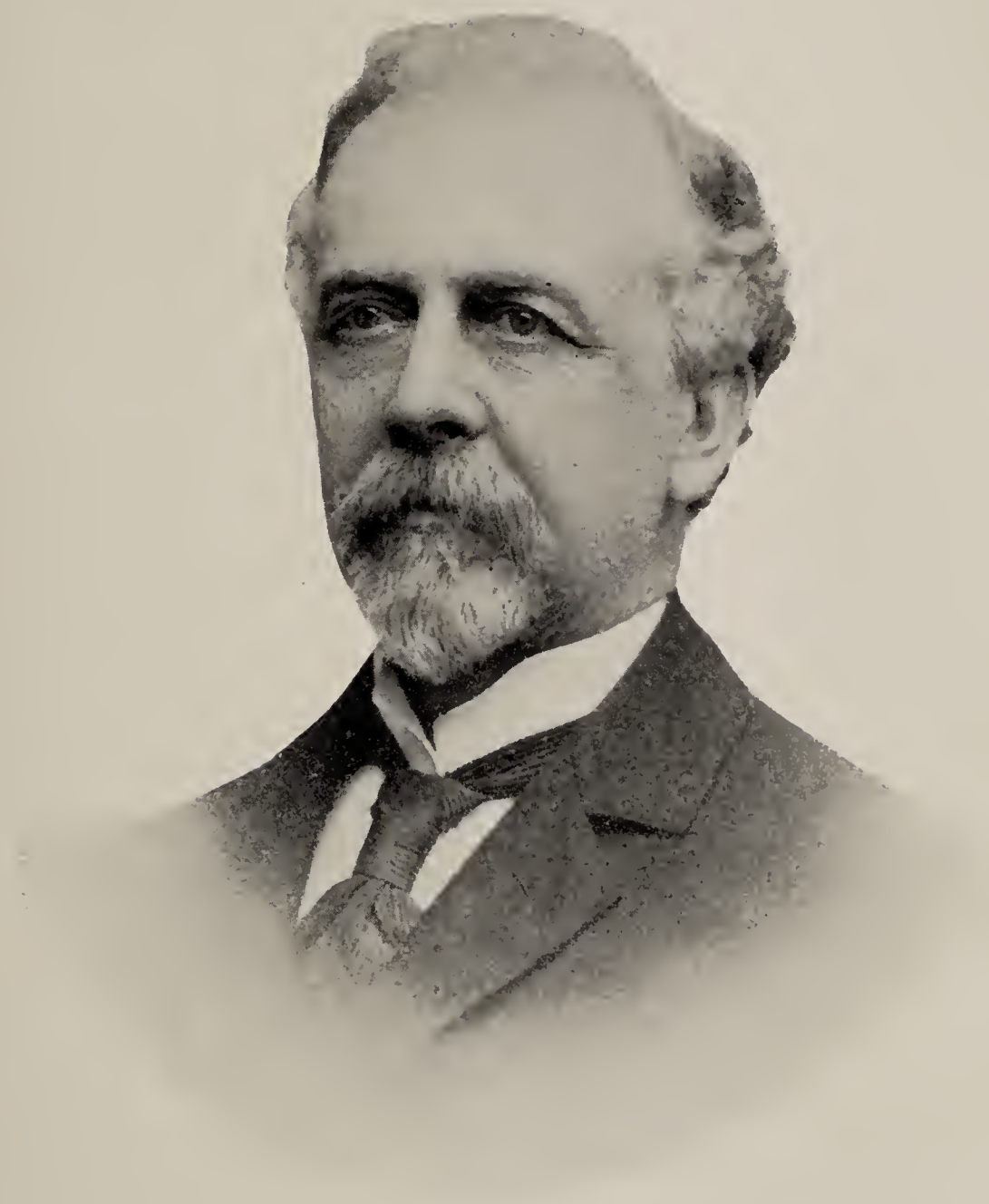
Miss Bessie McBride is a teacher in the Bryant school. Martha, Helen and Dudley are at home. The mother of the foregoing children died in 1907. Mr. McBride was again married, in 1909, to Miss Brittie Haines, a daughter of Amos and Pallee (Douglas) Haines, of Buckner, Mo. The children born of this union are as follow: Georgia, Corinne and Virginia.

Edward T. Douglas, grandfather of Mrs. Brittie McBride, was a pioneer in Fort Osage township, coming to Jackson County from Kentucky. The McBride family residence is situated at 901 White Oak street.

Mr. McBride is a Democrat. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Independence Lodge No. 3.

**Shannon K. Knox**, late well known and highly respected resident of Independence, was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., in 1847, and died Aug. 16, 1900. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Knox, of Westmoreland County, where he was reared and educated. When he was a very young man, he learned telegraphy, and followed that work for some years. During the Civil War he was telegraph operator at Sumner, Ill.

Mr. Knox came to Missouri in 1868, and settled on a farm three miles south of Independence, on the place now known as the Frazier farm. He followed farming and stock raising for five years, and then removed to Independence for the purpose of affording his children the educational advantages to be found in this city. Soon after locating in Independence, he became interested in mining, in partnership with Adam and John Long,



SHANNON K. KNOX.





who later founded the wholesale grocery firm of that name in Kansas City. He owned mines in Colorado and Montana, and was successful in the mining business, which he followed until his death, in 1900. Mr. Knox erected one of the fine residences of Independence, a large structure of 16 rooms, situated on the southeast corner of Lexington and Pleasant streets.

Mr. Knox was married in 1861 to Miss Jane E. Christy, a daughter of William Y. and Margaret (Lantermann) Christy, of Sumner, Ill. Mr. Christy died at Sumner, and his wife died when Mrs. Jane E. (Christy) Knox was but three years of age. Mrs. Knox has a brother, F. M. Christy, who resides on the Van Horn road, with his son, Gregg Christy. A sister, Mrs. Harriet Sheridan, lives in Los Angeles, Calif. Six children were born to Shannon K. and Jane E. Knox, as follow: Mrs. Anna Child, Independence, Mo.; Charles C. Knox, Berkeley, Calif.; Mrs. Paul Alexander, now living with Mrs. Knox; Roger C. Knox, Soulsbyville, Calif.; Dr. A. C. Knox, Kansas City, Mo.; Edgar C. Knox, in the real estate and insurance business, Independence.

Mr. Knox was a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and was prominent in Masonic circles in Illinois prior to locating in Jackson County. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, and was universally regarded as an exemplary, honorable and public spirited citizen.

W. S. Collier, proprietor of the Collier Painting and Decorating Store, 209 West Lexington street, Independence, Mo., has been engaged in his present business since April, 1919, and has made a pronounced success.

Mr. Collier was born at Marblehead, Ohio, Aug. 26, 1888, and is a son of Harry May and Mary E. Collier, the latter of whom died in Denver, Colo. W. S. Collier attended the public schools of Denver and Golden, Colo., and learned his trade under his father, who has been a skilled painter and decorator for many years. He has followed his trade during his entire matured life, and is one of the most skilled men in his line in this section of Missouri. His knowledge of the business is thorough, and he has been engaged in the work for over 14 years. Since 1913 he has been in business for himself at Denver, Salt Lake City, Pueblo, Albuquerque, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Spokane. He has also followed the business at Alliance, Neb., Topeka, Kan., and Kansas City, Mo. One of Mr. Collier's recent jobs was the painting and decorating of the Watkins Building, and the new Lewis Theater and the J. Allen Prewitt Building. He has done the finest work in the city. He employs from three to 11 men throughout the year.

Many fine residences, including the Thomas H. Swope country residence, present good evidence of his skill.

Mr. Collier was married in 1912 to Miss Mary Guthrie, of Westport, Mo., a daughter of Charles and Mary (Peterson) Guthrie, the latter of whom is deceased, and the former resides at 5856 Perry street, Kansas City, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Collier have three children: Melvin, Lucile and Charles. They reside at 209 West Lexington street.

Much knowledge and little capital is better than much money and little knowledge, is an old maxim, and the truth of this logic is being proven by men like Mr. Collier, who possessed of a thorough working knowledge of his business, has in less than a year, worked his way to the front rank among the business and industrial concerns of Independence.

**Daniel I. Gessley**, proprietor of a flourishing grocery business, located at the corner of Seventeenth and Sterling streets, one block north of the Independence and Kansas City Electric Line, Englewood, is a native of Pennsylvania. Mr. Gessley was born at Owingsburg, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, Nov. 14, 1854. His parents were Daniel and Mariah (Yeager) Gessley, who came from their native State to Missouri in 1869, and settled at Boonville.

The Gessley family made the trip from St. Louis to Boonville on the river steamboat, "Walter B. Dance." Upon his arrival in Boonville, Daniel Gessley was engaged in carriage manufacturing for five years. In 1874 he moved to Howard County, and followed the same business at Boonesboro until 1897, when he came to Jackson County, residing here until his death, in 1910. Mrs. Gessley died in 1892. The remains of both parents were taken back to Howard County and interred in the cemetery at Boonesboro.

Daniel I. Gessley learned the trade of carriage maker under his father, and upon coming to this county, in 1881, he established himself in the business at the corner of Ninth and Woodland streets, where he continued in business for 18 years. He came to Englewood in 1899, and established his grocery business at his present location. In addition to his regular business, Mr. Gessley has had the foresight and acumen to establish a cannery in connection, using the "cold pack" process of preserving fruits and vegetables for the trade. This innovation of Mr. Gessley's is proving to be a successful venture. During the past season he has preserved and put up over 2,000 cans of fruit and vegetables by this method, "the cold pack" system, recommended by the United States Government. Tomatoes have been the principal product canned up to this time, but it is Mr. Gessley's



intention to broaden his field of operations during the next season. He also has the agency for the Burpee hand can sealer, the most successful can sealer made.

Mr. Gessley was married Oct. 26, 1884, to Miss Mollie E. (Kivett), of Howard County, Missouri. She is a daughter of John S. and Lizzie (McCart) Kivett, the former of whom died in 1915, and the latter is residing at Boonesboro. To this marriage have been born four children: Elsie, wife of B. L. Harter, Englewood; Clara, wife of Samuel Petrie, Pratt, Kan.; Hilton H., and Royal N. Gessley. Mr. and Mrs. Harter have two children, Claude and Frances.

Hilton H. Gessley served in the United States Navy from June to December, of 1918. He married Stella Hunter, of Englewood, and is the father of a son, Irving H. Gessley.

Royal N. Gessley served in the Signal Corps of the United States Army, was first stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and then at Camp Meade, Md., from which point he received his honorable discharge from the service, in February, 1919, and is now in the employ of the Bell Telephone Company, of Topeka, Kan.

The Gessley family residence is located at the corner of Seventeenth and Sterling avenue, Englewood.

Jack McCart, grandfather of Mrs. Gessley, was a pioneer settler in Howard County, and was one of the original "Forty-niners" who crossed the plains and mountains to California in search of gold on the Pacific Slope. He operated a stage coach from Boonville to Westport, Mo., in the days of long ago, when there were no railroads in this section of Missouri.

**James L. Crawford**, veteran of the World War, barber on East Lexington street, Independence, Mo., was born June 24, 1894, on a farm in Texas County, Missouri, and is a son of E. V. and Callie (Sutton) Crawford, both of whom are deceased. He was educated in the public schools and Houston, Mo., High School, and was then in the employ of an oil refinery at Casper, Wyo.

Mr. Crawford was among the first to be inducted into the army when the call came for soldiers to serve in the World War. He was sent to Tulsa, Okla., where his brother, George Crawford, had also enlisted. Both men were members of Company B, 357th Infantry of the United States Army. They were in training at Camp Travis, Texas, and at Camp Mills, N. J., from which point they were sent overseas to France, via Liverpool and Southampton, with the 90th Division. They were nine months on the fir-

ing line in France, and were in the hardest of the fighting. George Crawford was gassed while taking part in the St. Mihiel drive, and is now in Spokane, Wash. James L. Crawford was in active service on the Western Front for four months, and took part in the hottest fighting in the St. Mihiel sector. Out of 165 men in the company of which he was a member, only 20 men came out alive, and these were all wounded.

He received a bayonet wound while fighting with a German soldier in a dugout, and his life was saved by Private James Howard, who killed the German by striking him a blow on the head with the butt of his rifle while the Hun was bayonetting Crawford. Later, while he and Howard lay in a shell hole watching an airplane battle, a burst of shrapnel struck them, killing Howard and mangling Private Crawford's leg horribly. This was on Sept. 12, 1918, just after both men had "gone over the top" in the great drive. He was taken to Base Hospital No. 12, 18 miles south of Metz; later, and after recovering sufficiently, he was brought to the United States, March 29, 1919. The government has furnished Mr. Crawford with an artificial limb, is paying him a vocational allowance of \$75 per month, and a pension of \$15 per month while he is preparing himself to follow the barber's trade. He came to Independence, Oct. 1, 1919, and is following his trade at 105 East Lexington street.

Mr. Crawford was married on Feb. 7, 1912, to Jessie Hutchenson, of Dykes, Mo. They have two children: Lena, and Chester. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford reside at 116 South Liberty street.

Mr. Crawford was awarded a medal which he won for his skill in sharp shooting while in the trenches, and for extraordinary bravery shown in battle.

**J. William Martin**, member of the firm, Martin-Welch Hardware Company, Independence, Mo., has resided in this city for the past 39 years, and is one of the best known and most successful merchants of the city. He was born in Fayette County, Ohio, April 3, 1860. His father, J. V. B. Martin, was born at Harpers Ferry, Va., June 21, 1837. His mother was Caroline (Straley) Martin, and was born in Fayette County, Ohio, Jan. 8, 1842. They were married Nov. 26, 1857. J. V. B. Martin made a trip to Missouri in 1849, and located in Ray County, where he remained about two years; then in company with Polk Rhodes, a slave, he drove through to Virginia with ox teams. His father and mother returned to the Virginia home by boat. Mr. Martin and the slave were three months making the journey home in a prairie schooner, which carried much of the movable possessions of the family. The prairie schooners of the old days were



capacious affairs, which had three times the capacity of the present-day road wagons. Later, J. V. B. Martin moved to Ohio, and was there married to Caroline Straley, of Fayette County, in 1857. He enlisted in the Union Army upon the outbreak of the Civil War, with his brother, C. D. Martin, and was captured by Gen. John Morgan's men at Cynthiana, Ky. Being exchanged, he was sent back to Ohio, and when Morgan made his famous raid through Ohio, he was a member of the band of Union men who captured Morgan and his men, near Lisbon, Ohio. His first work in Missouri after he came here, on September 17, 1868, was the hauling of whiskey from the Straley and Timmerman distillery to the Independence government warehouse, which was located near the public spring. He died from heart disease, Jan. 24, 1909, while riding in his son's automobile in Kansas City. His wife died in Los Angeles, Calif., May 9, 1914. The children born to J. V. B. and Caroline Martin are as follow: Emma Virginia, born March 29, 1859; John William, of this review, born April 3, 1860; James R., born June 5, 1861; George S., born May 13, 1863; Lucy E. born July 6, 1865; Armienis, born Sept. 29, 1866; Ollie May, born June 29, 1869; Lillie A., born March 29, 1872; Leona, born April 27, 1873; Jesse L., born Aug. 17, 1875; Rufus E., born March 29, 1879; Lula I., born Jan. 21, 1880; Warner, born Jan. 19, 1887.

J. William Martin was educated in the public schools of Kansas City, and attended Spalding's Commercial College. He then spent four years on a farm near Buckner, Mo., and moved to Independence in 1881. He embarked in business in this city, and was thus engaged until January, 1918. Although retired from active business pursuits, Mr. Martin retains his interest in the Martin-Welch Hardware Company.

Mr. Martin was married April 20, 1884, to Miss Maggie Axtell, of Independence, who died Nov. 23, 1913, leaving four children: Mrs. May Sheppard, Independence; Margaret A. Martin, at home with her father; Mrs. Madge Rogers, Independence; William V. B. Martin, connected with the Martin-Welch Hardware Company. William V. B. Martin enlisted in the United States Navy in April, 1917, and served on the Battleship New Jersey, in the transport service, crossing the Atlantic several times during the war. He was honorably discharged from the service and returned home in August, 1919. Prior to the World War he had studied at the Kemper Military Academy, of Boonville, in 1914.

Mr. Martin's second marriage was with Mrs. Hattie M. James, of Kansas City, Mo., born in 1872, a daughter of Jeremiah and Helen M. (Wolfe) Smith. Jeremiah Smith died in 1874, and his widow married



William J. Hannon, in 1866. Mr. Hannon died in 1870. Mrs. Hannon lives on a farm near Blue Springs. The Martin family reside at 502 North Liberty street, in what is considered to be the finest residence in the city. This dwelling was erected in 1917, and is built of native Bethany Falls cut stone, quarried at Sugar Creek Quarry, and hauled a distance of four miles. It consists of two stories, 11 rooms, and is modern throughout.

Mr. Martin has served four years as city councilman, and was twice his party's candidate for mayor, missing the election by but seven votes. He is affiliated with the Masons, the Eastern Star, and the Knights of Pythias and Fraternal Order of Eagles, and holds a life membership in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Martin is an ardent out of doors sportsman, and has hunted game in all parts of the country, from the northern lake region to California, and has been on hunting expeditions in old Mexico. Nearly every year he takes a hunting trip to some wild region and remains in the wilds for three months or more. For the past ten years he has been raising wild mallard ducks on his farm east of Blue Springs, where he has a small lake. He started his duck farm with a setting of nine wild duck eggs, and he is able to raise from two to three broods of mallards each year. The ducks are so tame that they come at daylight for their food, which is given to them regularly.

**George L. Compton**, retired farmer, old time plains freighter, and old settler of Jackson County, was born in Gerard County, Kentucky, in 1831. His parents were Burris and Anna (Dismukes) Compton, who came from Kentucky to Jackson County in 1854 and settled on a farm near Adams Station. The family came by way of the railroad to Louisville, Ky., and thence up the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri rivers, landing at Wayne City. The children of the family were: Mrs. Jane Isom, died in Kentucky; Mrs. Sallie Hamilton and Mrs. Catherine Peach, died in Kentucky; Elizabeth Compton, deceased; Mrs. Anna Winters, deceased; Mrs. Emily Pomeroy, deceased; Mrs. Mary Tracy and James, died in Kentucky; Vardaman, died in Jackson County in 1901; George L., of this review; and Zachariah, who died in infancy.

For two years after coming to Jackson County, Mr. Compton worked for Mr. Waldo at Adams Station. He then became a freighter and his first trip was made over the Santa Fe trail to New Mexico, driving eight mules and carrying the government mail. During the winter of 1855-1856 the snow was two feet deep and travel was slow and difficult, it being necessary to shovel the snow from the trail where it was badly drifted. Mr. Compton received \$40 a month and supplies but had to cook his own

meals enroute. A pine log was carried underneath the wagon bed to serve for kindling. A hole was dug in the ground and by means of pine slivers and buffalo chips the driver cooked his meal. Up an hour before day-break, breakfast was cooked and over, a start made and another 40 mile lap would be accomplished by nine o'clock at night. For a distance of 600 miles from Council Grove, Kan., to Fort Union, N. M. there were no habitations of civilized man; buffaloes covered the plains in thousands. Mr. Compton made two trips to New Mexico and the trials of the trips were so wearing that he was becoming addicted to profanity and decided that he had better quit. He afterward carried the mail from Independence, Mo. to Council Grove, Kan.

After his freighting experience, Mr. Compton engaged in farming near Adams Station, at first renting land, and then buying 110 acres. For his first farm he paid \$15.15 an acre and sold it later for \$40 an acre. He bought an adjoining farm and resided upon it for ten years; he then bought another tract of 180 acres which he later sold for \$150 an acre. His last purchase was for a farm of 153 acres at \$95 an acre, ten miles southwest of Independence, near Raytown, land which is now worth \$500 an acre.

Mr. Compton was married March 28, 1856, to Miss Iza Poteet, a daughter of Edmund and Jane Poteet, both of whom died on their farm near Adams Station. Mrs. Iza Compton died in 1901 at Eldorado Springs, Mo., and her remains were laid to rest in Woodlawn cemetery. The children born of this marriage are: Mrs. Anna Jane Lowe, Blue Springs; James V., Independence; William Edward, deceased; Mary E., at home with her father; George H., Independence, Mo.; Prince A., California; Emmet Lee, Baker, Mont.; Shannon, at home; Crawford, deceased; Mrs. Pitta Estella Stayton, Independence.

When Order No. 11 compelled the evacuation of Jackson County by the people, in 1863, Mr. Compton moved to Ray County, Mo. He was accompanied by his four children, his wife, her father and his daughter-in-law and two children, all loaded in one wagon. During the following winter, the Hedges and Compton families with nine children all lived in one room of a log cabin. Upon the death of Mrs. Compton, he retired to a home in Independence at 525 West Maple street. When he came to this county over 65 years ago, Independence had but 1,200 population. There were but 32 voters in Kansas City at that time, only that many votes being cast at a city election held in 1853. Mr. Compton was well acquainted with John P. St. John of Kansas and many others of the well



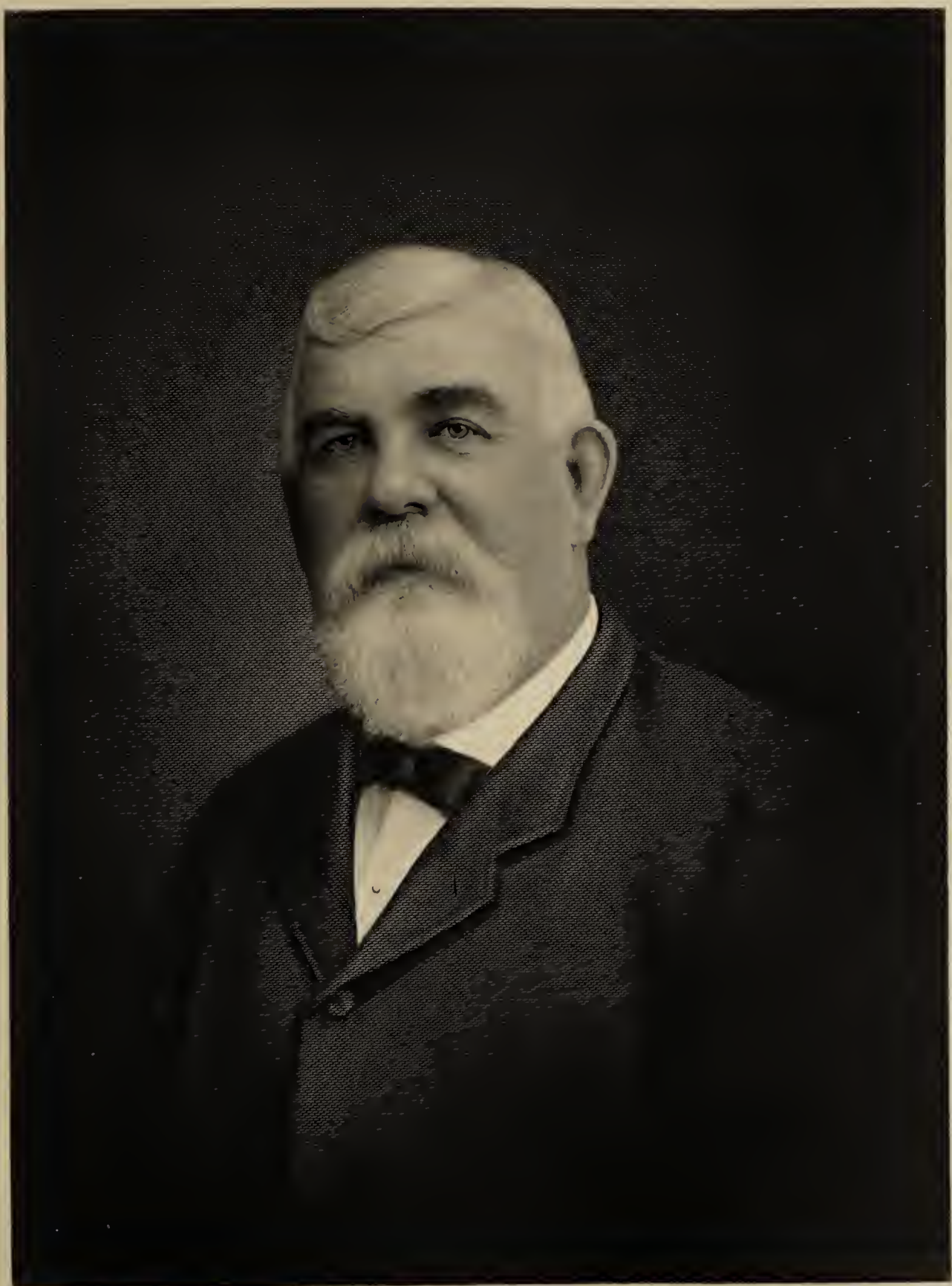
known characters of the old days. For years, he bought and sold hogs, sometimes making money and sometimes losing, according to the market conditions. In 1866 he bought a carload of hogs in Clay County, paying \$9.00 and \$9.25 per cwt. and immediately afterward the St. Louis market dropped to \$8.00 per cwt. He saved his investment, however, by butchering the hogs and selling the dressed pork for \$12.50 per cwt.

**Joseph Wayne Mercer.**—This history of Jackson County would be incomplete did it not contain an account of the Mercer and Greene families, who for more than a half century have been identified with the up-building and development of Kansas City and Independence. The late Joseph Mercer, banker, veteran of the Civil War, former State treasurer, was for many years one of the leaders in the financial and commercial life of the city and county. He was born in Platte County, Mo., in 1845, and departed this life at his home in Independence, March 13, 1906.

Joseph Wayne Mercer was attending school at Chapel Hill when the Civil War broke out. He at once enlisted with the army of Gen. Sterling Price, and for four years took an active part in the campaigns of General Price's army. He was three times wounded, and suffered the loss of an arm, yet with this handicap, after the war was over, he achieved a success in whatever undertaking he entered. He was wounded at the battle of Pea Ridge, Ark., and was also wounded in the battle of Lexington. At Pine Bluff, Ark., he lost an arm, and was thus incapacitated for active duty in the field. He was placed in the commissary department of the army, and was serving in this capacity at McKinney, Texas, when the war closed.

Manual labor of the usual sort being thus barred to him, he set about to prepare himself to earn his living in other lines. Upon his return home from Texas, he accordingly went to St. Louis, and prepared himself for business, attending the St. Louis Commercial College. After the completion of his course he came to Independence and taught a district school three miles from Independence, walking to and from school night and morning. Besides teaching the school he conducted a commercial class of local students at night. Later he engaged in the real estate and loan business, and about 1876 he engaged in the banking business, with other partners, operating under the name of Brown, Hughes and Company. This bank was located on the present site of the First National Bank. Prior to this venture, however, Mr. Mercer had been connected with a bank at Pleasant Hill, Mo. For four years he was in the wholesale grocery business with the firm of Beckham, Mercer & Company, which was succeeded





JOSEPH W. MERCER



by Beckham, McKnight & Company. Mr. Mercer erected the Mercer home, situated at 116 South Pleasant street, Independence, in 1889. This home is one of the finest in the city.

Joseph W. Mercer was married May 18, 1870, to Laura Greene, a daughter of Beal and Corinne (Ratcliff) Greene. To this marriage have been born children as follow: Annie, wife of James A. Roberts, president of the Kansas City Wholesale Grocery Company; Etta, wife of Walter Brown, investment broker, Kansas City, Mo.; Mary, wife of Bernard Zick, Jr., president of the First National Bank, Independence, Mo.; Catherine, wife of E. A. Cronin, secretary-treasurer of the Kansas City Wholesale Grocery Company. Mrs. Mercer has four grandchildren, Joseph Mercer, Mary Mildred Zick; Laura and Amelia Brown.

Mrs. Laura (Greene) Mercer was born in Jackson County, of Kentucky parents. Beal Greene came to Missouri in 1839, and assisted in making the main street cut in Kansas City. He purchased a farm of 365 acres, southeast of Kansas City, which is now a part of Phoenix Park. Twenty-seventh street now runs through the old Greene home place. He sold this farm some time in the eighties, and moved to Kansas City, where his wife died in 1891. He died in 1899. Both are buried in Woodlawn cemetery. Their children are as follow: Mrs. Fannie Burdette, T. W. Greene, Joseph M. Greene, Mrs. Nannie Holmes, all deceased; Mrs. Laura Mercer, of this review; Newton Greene, and William Greene, Raytown, Mo.; Beal Breene, Greenwood, Mo.; Emma, wife of J. P. Hanback, Kansas City, Mo.; C. S. Greene, Kansas City, Mo.; Dr. R. L. Greene, Fort Worth, Texas.

Mr. Mercer was a Democrat, who for many years took a leading part in political affairs in this section of Missouri. He was elected to the office of State treasurer of Missouri in 1874, and served in this important office during 1875 and 1876. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and lived according to his belief. Mrs. Mercer is a member of the Christian church.

**Bishop John A. Becker**, of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints, Independence, Mo., 418 North River Boulevard, was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, Oct. 5, 1874. He is a son of Adam and Charlotte (Miller) Becker, the former of whom was a native of Tuscarawas County and the latter a native of the Rhine Province, Germany. They were married in Ohio in 1867. Adam Becker died in 1892. Mrs. Becker resides at New Philadelphia, Ohio.

Adam Becker served with the Union army during the Civil War and



was a soldier in the 198th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving for about nine months and received an honorable discharge from the service on account of sick disability. His children are as follow: Charles Edward and Mrs. Carolina Ruppenthal, New Philadelphia, Ohio; Mrs. Rosetta Fidler, deceased; and John A. Becker.

John A. Becker was educated in the schools of Port Washington, Ohio, The Ada Normal School and the Northwestern Ohio College at Defiance, Ohio. For five years after leaving school he taught in the public schools. In 1903 he entered the ministry and had a charge at Pittsburg, Pa., prior to locating in Independence. In 1905 he was sent to Germany on mission work, devoting two years to this work, from 1905 to 1907. In 1908 he was ordained a bishop in the Church of the Latter Day Saints and placed in charge of work in Ohio with his residence at Kirtland. In September, 1918, Bishop Becker came to Independence and was placed in charge of the work of the bishopric, his present position, a bishopric which embraces a membership in the city of 4,500.

Bishop Becker was married in 1899 to Anna Young of New Waterford, Ohio, born in Pennsylvania, but reared in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Becker have three children: Pauline Mildred, Dana Charlotte and John A. Becker, Jr.

Bishop Becker united with the Church of the Latter Day Saints at Kirtland, Ohio, in 1899 when Elder A. H. Parsons of Independence was conducting missionary work in that city. Elder Parsons is now pastor of the Walnut Park church, Independence, Mo.

**Abraham Joshua Koger**, native born pioneer resident of Jackson County, successful farmer and stockman, now living retired at his home at 1206 North Osage street, Independence, Mo., was born on the old Koger homestead near Tarsney, in Van Buren township. The old Koger farm is now the home of Thomas Leegan. Mr. Koger was born Feb. 26, 1858, and is a son of Abraham Koger, a native of Patrick County, Va., and descendant of an old American family.

Abraham Koger, born 1804, died 1870, was a son of Henry Koger of Virginia, who fought in the Revolutionary War on the side of the colonies. Abraham Koger came to Jackson County from the old Koger home in Virginia in 1833. This old Virginia homestead is still owned by a descendant of John Koger, who is an uncle of the subject of this sketch.

The first settlement which Abraham Koger made in this county was upon 80 acres of land which he entered from the government and which was located three miles south of Independence. He developed this farm

and later sold it and moved to a place near Tarsney, the old Koger homestead. He married Mary Corn, a daughter of Samuel Corn who came to this county in 1833. She, also, is of Revolutionary ancestry and traces her lineage to Samuel Corn, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, who fought in the American Revolution. Abraham Koger and wife developed their farm and here reared their family and Mrs. Koger died in 1870 on the old homestead and was buried in the Koger cemetery and Mr. Koger died in 1890 in Bates County and is buried in the Gregg cemetery.

The children born to Abraham Koger and wife are as follow: Joseph M. Koger, deceased; Mrs. Mary Mertins, Hicks City, Mo.; Mrs. Ruth Jack, Pink Hill, Mo.; James H. Koger, Mena, Ark.; Mrs. Matilda Downey, Sibley, Mo.; Samuel died in childhood; Mrs. Martha Faulk, Kansas City, Mo.; Abraham J., of this review; Jefferson, Aaron, Mo.; William F. died at the age of 22 years.

When Order No. 11 was issued during the Civil War, calling for the evacuation of the western part of Missouri, the Koger family went to Greenton, Lafayette County, Mo. Prior to this their home had been burned by invaders and all of the live stock on the place stolen or killed. The family journeyed to Lafayette County with ox teams in August, 1863 and did not return to their home site until a year from the following January. They then built another home and began over again to accumulate property.

The education of Abraham Koger was obtained in private schools which were held in farmhouses of the neighborhood and later in Liberty church after the Civil War, followed by the public schools. Since he was 15 years of age he has made his own way and earned his living. For about seven years after marriage he rented land and in 1893 he purchased a tract of 40 acres in Fort Osage township. In 1896 he bought 40 acres more land in Blue township. He later bought the Sullivan tract of 200 acres in Blue township. In the fall of 1919, Mr. Koger disposed of his land holdings at a good price and retired to a comfortable home at 1206 North Osage street, in March, 1918.

Abraham Koger was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Vanarsdall of Blue township, Oct. 15, 1885. She is a daughter of Jessie and Margaret Vanarsdall and was born Oct. 11, 1864. Mr. Vanarsdall is deceased and Mrs. Vanarsdall resides in Bates County, Mo. The children born to this marriage are: George C. Koger, living on the home place; Jesse E. Koger, Blue township; Ollie L. Koger, Topeka, Kan.; Edith Marie Koger, at home with her father.



Ollie L. Koger served in the National army. He was inducted into the service June 18, 1918 and was in training at Camp Funston. He was a private in Company 237 of the Sanitary, 10th Division and when the armistice was signed he was at Baltimore awaiting ship to go overseas. While in service he drove trucks across country three times, one trip from Whiting, Wabash and from Detroit to Baltimore.

Mr. Koger is a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America. He is a fine type of the pioneer citizen, who has won his place in the citizenry of Jackson County by diligence, industry, honest dealings and good financial management.

**William W. Twyman**, member of the Twyman Brothers, real estate firm, 208 North Main street, Independence, Mo., was born on a farm near Blue Mills, Jackson County, Oct. 22, 1852. His parents were Dr. L. W. and Frances C. (Fristoe) Twyman.

Dr. L. W. Twyman was born near St. Charles, Mo., and was a son of Dr. Leo Twyman, a pioneer physician of St. Charles County, who came to Independence in pioneer days, and erected one of the finest hotels in the city on North Main street, the building which is now occupied by the Rogers grocery and a shoe store. He died in Independence. Dr. L. W. Twyman located at Blue Mills, and practiced medicine for a generation. He practiced his profession in the old days when it was customary for the country doctor to carry the medicines in saddle bags as he made his calls throughout the country. He lived to the age of 77 years and died in Independence. His wife attained the age of 80 years. The children of the Twyman family are: Julia, died in childhood; William W., of this review; Dr. G. T. Twyman, R. L. and J. P. Twyman, Independence; James, deceased; Frank C., Independence.

Five generations of the Twyman family have resided in Jackson County and there have been physicians in four generations of the family. The history of the family is closely interwoven with that of the early pioneer days in Jackson County. For nearly four score years this family has been prominent in the county with the exception of the time spent in Howard County during the Civil War in obedience to Order No. 11.

Since he was 20 years of age, William W. Twyman has made his own way in the world. For 15 years after he left the farm he was engaged in mercantile business at Cockrell, Mo. He served as county marshal of Jackson County for eight years and filled the office of county collector for two years. He and his brother, J. P. Twyman, opened the



Twyman Brothers real estate business at 208 North Main street in September, 1919, and are doing a thriving business.

Mr. Twyman was married in 1872 to Sarah H. Tyer, of Blue Mills. She died in 1909 and her remains were interred in the cemetery at Lees Summit, Mo. The children born of this marriage are: Frank W., Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Mary Jackson, Cockrell, Mo.; Walter D., Kansas City, Mo.; Gilbert O., Blackwell, Okla.; Miss Willie Twyman, a stenographer in the employ of the Rock Island Railway Company, Kansas City, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Twyman have grandchildren as follow: Helen Twyman, Roger Jackson, Robert Twyman, Annis Lee Lucille, Mary, Ailene, and Gilbert Twyman. The family residence is situated at Englewood, Mo. In 1911 Mr. Twyman was married to Martha T. Walden, of Independence.

**Richard J. Lambert.**—The Ensign Publishing House on West Lexington street, Independence, Mo., of which Richard J. Lambert is editor and manager, is the outgrowth of the old Independence Gazette, published by William Crick. Zion's Ensign had its inception in 1890, William Crick and Dr. Joseph Luff starting the publication as a weekly religious paper devoted to spreading the gospel according to the beliefs and tenets of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints. They operated the plant and published this religious weekly for a number of years and finally sold it to the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. The church authorities continued the publication of the Ensign and began the publishing of religious books and tracts. The distinguishing feature of the Ensign is the doctrinal sermon which appears in each weekly issue. The circulation of this paper has grown until it exceeds 9,000 copies weekly and it is mailed to bona fide subscribers in every state in the Union. About 75 per cent of the circulation goes to points outside of Jackson County, and 500 copies are mailed to subscribers in foreign lands. The list of its past editors and contributors includes such men as Dr. Joseph Luff, Evangelist Frederick G. Pitt, William H. Garret, Charles Fry, Hiram O. Smith, Walter W. Smith, Arthur McKim, and the present editor, Richard J. Lambert, who is an able writer and publisher.

Mr. Lambert became connected with Zion's Ensign as editor and general manager in June, 1918. At this time the printing and binding departments have so developed that the concern is listed among the first class printing and binding houses of the country. The Ensign is ably edited and well printed and has taken front rank among the great religious weeklies of the country.

Editor Richard J. Lambert was born Sept. 20, 1874, at Woodbine, Harrison County, Iowa. He was reared in the home of a Latter Day Saints Apostle, Joseph R. Lambert, his father. He resided in early childhood and manhood at Lamoni, Iowa. Since attaining maturity his life has been devoted to printing and publishing in the interests of the Latter Day Saints and he has spent much of his time engaged in missionary work.

Mr. Lambert was married in 1896 to Christabelle, the youngest daughter of Bishop William Anderson. Mr. and Mrs. Lambert have three children: Jean, Harold and Bruce E. Lambert. They reside on West Walnut street.

**R. W. McCurdy.**—The work which a man does during his active years in business or industry speaks for itself and encomiums are not required to further enhance his prestige. Some men are born promoters and organizers and gifted with executive ability of a high order. Such a citizen is R. W. McCurdy whose more than 32 years of residence in Independence has been replete with work which has been of benefit to the community. Mr. McCurdy, in his capacity as president of the Home Deposit Trust Company, has not only forged to the front rank of banking in Jackson County, but he has not neglected to devote his time and influence to the furtherance of movements which have been of great benefit to his home city.

R. W. McCurdy was born Dec. 25, 1858 and is a son of John A. and Mary McCurdy, who removed to Lawrence, Kan. in 1869 and there spent the remainder of their lives. R. W. McCurdy attended the Lawrence High School and the business college at Lawrence and at the age of 20 years he was employed as traveling salesman. For 32 years he was a knight of the road and grip and was eminently successful in his vocation.

When a young man, Mr. McCurdy was married to Miss Martha Alice Norrick, a native of Ohio. For the past 32 years Mr. and Mrs. McCurdy have resided at 132 East Kansas street.

One of the very important undertakings which Mr. McCurdy accomplished while engaged as traveling salesman was the organization of the Kansas City Wholesale Grocery Company, composed of 22 traveling salesmen and some outside parties with capital to invest in the business. Joseph W. Mercër was vice-president of this concern which has grown in importance until it is the most important wholesale concern of its kind in this section of the country. Others associated with the wholesale company with Mr. McCurdy were Judge Lee Chrisman, Overton H. Gentry,



present sheriff of the county, and Kit Colyer. The company was organized with a capital stock of \$300,000. Mr. McCurdy severed his relations with the wholesale grocery company about six months prior to the organization of the Home Deposit Trust Company, in which he was the principal factor and which began business in August, 1910.

Mr. McCurdy assisted in the organization of the Bank of Bates City, Mo. and in the same year, 1911, he helped to organize the Knorpp Cattle Loan Company and was a member of the board of directors of this concern. Two years later the cattle loan company was merged with the Schwarzhild and Sulberger Beef Company and the name of the Knorpp Cattle and Loan Company was changed to the Southwest Cattle Loan Company with Mr. McCurdy as vice-president.

The Schwarzhild and Sulberger Company later sold its interests and plant to Thomas Wilson of the Wilson Packing Company. John L. Knorpp still retains the presidency of the Southwest Cattle Loan Company and Mr. McCurdy is vice-president. The capital stock of this concern was \$25,000, originally, but has since been increased to \$250,000, with a surplus fund of \$50,000.

R. W. McCurdy served two years as mayor of Independence and the McCurdy administration was noted for the genuine progress made in city affairs. The electric light plant was taken over under his direction and placed on a paying basis. Twenty-five miles of sewerage were built and he also demanded and enforced the rule that all street improvements made should be of a permanent character. He favored the granting of the franchise to the Home Telephone Company. During the two years in which he served as mayor, Mr. McCurdy never missed a meeting of the city council, although traveling constantly on the road during that time.

During Governor Major's administration, Mr. McCurdy accepted the appointment of superintendent of the good roads movement in Jackson County, and with characteristic zeal he set about to effect some radical changes in the road improvement in the county. By the governor's request, each individual in Jackson County was importuned to donate at least two days labor on the county roads. In order to stir up the enthusiasm necessary among the people and to secure their hearty co-operation in this important matter, Mr. McCurdy, in company with William Z. Hickman, toured the county. Armed with the authority of the county court, they organized the entire county, enlisting the support of 5,000 citizens of the county who agreed to work on the roads. Messrs. Hickman and McCurdy drove 1,425 miles in an automobile over the county and



spent 10 days among the people, Mr. McCurdy making as high as 10 to 15 addresses each day to the gatherings at different points in Jackson County. The success of this undertaking aroused nation wide comment of a favorable nature and the good road sentiment aroused by that whirlwind campaign has never been allowed to die out. The improving of Jackson County highways still goes on and will continue until the county has the finest road system in the west.

**Judge James Latimer**, deceased, was one of the best known citizens of Jackson County. He was a former judge of the County Court, successful farmer and stockman, and a zealous and honest public official. Judge Latimer was born in Roanoke County, Va., July 31, 1837, and died Sept. 28, 1915. He was a son of Christopher and Mary Ann Latimer, natives of Roanoke County, Va., who left their old home in Virginia about 1845 and settled in Jackson County. Christopher and Mary Ann Latimer were the parents of ten children, one of whom is living, Mrs. Amanda Bryant, of Independence. Here James Latimer was reared to young manhood, and was a sturdy young man when the Civil War began. He served in the Confederate Army during the war. He was married on Oct. 5, 1860, to Miss Susan Williamson, and to this union were born children as follow: W. Reese Latimer, a farmer, living east of Independence; Mrs. Stella Hedges, Independence; Mrs. Nannie Williamson, Independence; Mrs. Mollie Powell, Independence; Charles Latimer, deputy county treasurer, Independence; Jarret, died Feb. 23, 1919; Jennie Latimer, at home with her mother; Mrs. Retta Orlena Southern, wife of Judge Allen C. Southern, Independence; Maurice, Independence; and Grover C. Latimer, who died in 1896.

Susan Williamson was born in Kentucky, Aug. 18, 1844, a daughter of James Champion and Nancy (Gilkerson) Williamson, who came from Kentucky to Missouri in 1849, coming by steamboat to St. Louis, and overland by wagon to Jackson County. The Williamsons settled near Bone Hill, where Mr. Williamson improved a farm of 250 acres. The parents spent the remainder of their days on the farm, and both died there. James C. Williamson lies buried with his wife in the cemetery at Oakland church. The other children of this pioneer family, besides Mrs. Latimer, are: Mrs. Jennie Campbell, Blue Springs, Mo.; Mrs. Mary White, Boulder, Colo.; James Calvin, who was last heard from in Indian Territory; Mrs. Nancy Adams, Mrs. Eliza Linsley, and Thomas and Cornelius, deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Latimer resided on the old Latimer place east of Independence until 1879, when they moved to what was formerly the John



JUDGE JAMES LATIMER.





Saunders place, east of Independence. Here Mr. Latimer died, and in 1915 Mrs. Latimer moved to a home at 120 East Rubey street, where she resides with her daughter, Miss Jennie Alberta Latimer.

James Latimer was prominent in civic and political matters in Jackson County, and was elected Judge of the County Court in 1892, serving in this important office for four years.

Judge Latimer was an excellent public officer, who had the best interests of his county at heart. As a mark of appreciation, when he retired from the office, his friends presented him with a gold-headed cane as a token of their esteem. He was a member of the Christian church, and was a liberal supporter of the churches in Jackson County. He was a deeply religious man, whose first thought was for his family and fireside.

**Elder Alonzo Harkaway Parsons**, pastor of Walnut Park church of The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints, was born Feb. 8, 1857, in Madison County, Ind. He is a son of William and Martha Ann (Kent) Parsons, the former a native of Randolph County, Ind., and the latter of Caldwell County, Mo.

William Parsons was born May 15, 1834 and was married to Martha Ann Kent Feb. 28, 1856. His father was Solomon Parsons, born in Guilford, N. C., April 7, 1805, and married Rachel Harvey, born April 11, 1804, a daughter of Quaker parents. Solomon Parsons was a son of Irvin Parsons, whose father was George Parsons, a native of Guilford County, N. C. The parents of George Parsons emigrated from England to America a short time before the birth of George Parsons, who was reared there and married Ruth Buller, who bore him nine sons and one daughter. She was a daughter of Moses and Mary Buller. Their son Irvin Parsons married Elizabeth Buller, who was born Aug. 31, 1783.

Solomon Parsons and wife moved from North Carolina to Randolph County, Ind. in 1832 and resided there on a farm for a number of years. In 1860, William Parsons moved from Indiana to Ringgold County, Iowa, and located on a farm near Mount Air. The other children born to Solomon Parsons and wife, besides William Parsons, were: Irvin, Robert, James, George, William, Anna, Mary, John, Peter, Thomas, Joseph and Kiziah.

To William and Martha Ann Parsons were born nine children: Alonzo Harkaway, of this review; Henry Edgar, born Dec. 25, 1859, Winchester, Okla.; John Lindsay, born Feb. 22, 1861, in Fremont, Iowa, resides in Seattle, Wash.; Henrietta, born April 8, 1863, died in childhood; Otto Ray-

man, born Aug. 27, 1865, lives in Independence; Mrs. Cordelia Isabelle Oglive, born Aug. 12, 1875, lives in Nevada, Mo.; Mrs. Olive Taylor, born Nov. 22, 1877, lives at Blairstown Mo.; Mrs. Rotta Lillian Fender, born Oct. 18, 1881, lives in Blue township, Jackson County.

The mother of the foregoing children was a daughter of Horatio Nelson Kent, who was a son of Carlton Kent, whose father was Abel Kent. Horatio Nelson Kent married Elmira Sloan and to this union were born children as follow: Alma, Louise Wiles, and Martha Ann. At the time of the (so called) Mormon war in 1838, Horatio Kent and wife were residing in Caldwell County, Mo., and on Nov. 13th of that year, he and his wife with many others of the colony were compelled to flee and to sign away the deed to their home under peril of their lives. They drove away to Indiana in a one horse cart and were subjected to such exposure in inclement weather that Mrs. Kent died soon after the premature birth of her daughter, the future Mrs. Martha Ann Parsons.

Elmira Sloan Kent was a daughter of Elijah Sloan who, with his wife, migrated from New York to Bartholomew County, Ind. about 1829. Abel Kent, a brother of Horatio N. Kent, married Lucinda Starkweather, of a prominent family in Connecticut.

After attending the public schools, Alonzo Harkaway Parsons took a correspondence course in the Chicago Law School and is a graduate of the State Sunday School Normal Institute of Missouri. When 20 years old he began his ministerial career with the Quaker church and was thus engaged for four years in Kansas. He then identified himself with the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints and has been preaching the gospel according to the teachings of this church for the past 38 years. For 18 years Mr. Parsons was a missionary for his church, 14 years being spent in the East. For 12 years he served in the Bishopric under Bishop May. For the past three years Elder Parsons has been pastor of Walnut Park church in Independence. The church organization has begun the erection of a new building 40 x 70 feet, the construction of which will be completed during the next year, if possible.

Elder A. H. Parsons was married Jan. 26, 1875 to Martha Gale of Ringgold, Iowa, and this marriage has been blessed with three children: Nora Orletta, died in infancy; Dora Azora, born Nov. 24, 1878, died in infancy; Venata June Mason, born June 4, 1892, lives in Independence, is mother of two children: Richard and Roberts Parsons Mason.

Elder and Mrs. Parsons reside at 1223 Noland street.



**James Austin Kemper**, a successful attorney, with offices in the Owens building, Independence, Mo., is a native of Indiana. Mr. Kemper was born near Lebanon, Boone County, Oct. 25, 1862. He is a son of Tilman and Elizabeth (Vice) Kemper, the former of whom was a descendant of colonial ancestry. Prof. Frederick T. Kemper, a relative, was the founder of Kemper Military Institute at Boonville, Mo. Gen. James L. Kemper, a former governor of Virginia was also a member of this family. The paternal grandfather of Tilman Kemper served with distinction as a soldier with Virginia troops in the war of the American Revolution. Both he and his son also served in the War of 1812. The colonial ancestor of James Austin Kemper emigrated from England in the latter part of the 17th century and settled at Jamestown, Va. From him has sprung a distinguished American family, his descendants having become prominent in all walks of life in America.

Coming to Missouri with his parents in 1869, James Austin Kemper was educated in the common schools, the State Normal School at Warrensburg, Mo. and pursued a course in the literary and law departments of the Missouri State University in 1886-1887. He taught school for four years in Johnson County, Mo. and in 1888 he was elected superintendent of the public schools of Odessa, Mo. He held that position for four years. He then resigned and entered the real estate, loan and insurance business. In the meantime he renewed his study of law which he had begun in 1886 in the law office of Hon. S. P. Sparks at Warrensburg, Mo. while teaching school. Mr. Kemper was admitted to the bar Dec. 18, 1894 by Judge Richard Field, at Lexington, Mo. He practiced at Odessa, Mo., until Jan. 1, 1896, and then located in Warrensburg, where he was very successful. During nearly a quarter of a century of active practice in Missouri, Mr. Kemper has established a reputation as being a painstaking and forceful attorney who serves his clients with every atom of his energy and power, as a lawyer of force and ability. During this time he has successfully defended four individuals accused of murder and obtained a verdict of acquittal in each case. Mr. Kemper located in Independence, Mo. Nov. 7, 1914. Since coming to this city he has built up a large civil practice in this section of Missouri and is recognized as one of the leading attorneys of the city and county.

In September, 1888, Mr. Kemper was married to Miss Anna E. Dalhouse, a native of Illinois, and a daughter of Samuel F. Dalhouse, one of the wealthiest farmers of Johnson County, who came from Virginia to Missouri in 1859, subsequently moving to Illinois and returned to Missouri



to make a permanent home in 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Kemper have two sons: Hugh Conway and Janie Dalhouse.

Mr. Kemper is a stanch Democrat and loyal to the principles of true democracy. He has been prominent in the affairs of his party in Missouri. In 1892 he served as chairman of the Congressional District Convention at Higginsville, Mo. and in 1895 he made the race for the nomination for prosecuting attorney of Lafayette County. During the campaign of 1896 he was the recognized leader of his party in Johnson County and again in 1900 he canvassed a part of the state under the direction of the State Central Committee of the Democratic party. Mr. Kemper's activities in politics have always been directed in behalf of his party and friends and he has never been a seeker after political preferment, although importuned at various times to be a candidate for office.

Always taking a deep interest in educational matters, he served as a member of the board of education of Warrensburg, Mo. from April, 1897 to April, 1900, filling the office of treasurer two years. During his term as a member of the school board, the entire system of the city schools was reorganized and the school curriculum revised and enlarged so that the school system would articulate with entrance requirements of the State universities of Missouri and Kansas. Because of his work on behalf of the schools one of the ward schools of Warrensburg was named in his honor.

Mr. Kemper is a member of the State Bar Association. He and his family are all members of the Christian church, of which he served as an elder for four years.

Israel A. Smith, successful attorney at law, with offices in the Owens building, Independence, Mo., was born at Plano, Ill., Feb. 2, 1876. His father was Joseph Smith and his mother was Bertha Smith. Joseph Smith was president of the Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints from 1860 to 1914 and prior to coming to Independence he was located at Lamoni, Iowa. He was a son of the founder of the original Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, a further account of whose life and career is given in connection with the sketch of Walter W. Smith, church historian. Joseph Smith died in Independence, Dec. 10, 1914.

Israel A. Smith attended Graceland College at Lamoni, Iowa, and was in the employ of the Bell Telephone Company after leaving school. He was then engaged in the life insurance business, following which he became managing editor of the Saints Herald at Lamoni, Iowa. While a resident of Lamoni, Mr. Smith became prominent in civic and political

affairs and held various local official positions, including membership on the local school board and mayor of the city. While serving as mayor of Lamoni he was elected representative in the Iowa State Legislature and served as representative from Decatur County in the 34th Iowa General Assembly. He was admitted to the bar of Iowa in 1912 and removed to Independence in 1913, having been admitted to practice in Missouri by the Missouri State Board in that same year.

Mr. Smith has built up an excellent law practice and has done considerable legal work as a corporation lawyer since his advent in this city. He stands high in the legal profession of Jackson County and is one of the leading legal lights of this section of Missouri.

Mr. Smith was married March 14, 1908 to Miss Nina M. Grenawalt, daughter of John and Fannie Grenawalt, deceased, formerly of Lamoni, Iowa. To this marriage have been born two sons: Joseph P., born Sept. 7, 1912; and Donald C., born March 4, 1916. The residence of Mr. and Mrs. Israel A. Smith is at 1214 West Short street.

Mr. Smith is a member of the Kansas City Bar Association and the Missouri Bar Association. He is affiliated with the Sons of the American Revolution and is a member of the Reorganized Church of Christ of Latter Day Saints and served as a member of the presidency of the Independence stake of his church from 1916 to 1918.

**The Home Deposit Trust Company**, Independence, Mo., although among the younger financial institutions in Independence and Jackson County has rapidly forged to the front rank among institutions of its class in the county, and is one of the important and stable concerns of this city. The Home Deposit Trust Company was organized Aug. 15, 1910 with a capital stock of \$100,000. The first officers of the concern were as follow: R. W. McCurdy, president; J. A. Prewitt, first vice-president; Arthur C. Warner, second vice-president; E. M. Stayton, third vice-president; Will Symington, treasurer; Fred Bergschneider, secretary; and George W. Corey, assistant secretary.

The capital stock remains at \$100,000 with a surplus of \$20,000 and undivided profits of \$8,000. The deposits will exceed \$500,000. Since the Home Deposit Trust Company began business it has paid nine dividends to the stock holders. The present officers of the company are: R. W. McCurdy, president; L. T. Markey, first vice-president; E. M. Stayton, second vice-president; N. D. Jackson, third vice-president; George W. Corey, treasurer; James Shepherd, secretary.



Albert M. Ott, president of the Chrisman-Sawyer Banking Company, Independence, Mo. is a native of Independence. He was born Jan. 4, 1865, and is a son of Christian and Louise (Mohr) Ott. His father emigrated from Germany to America in 1845 and his mother crossed the Atlantic to our shores in 1843. She lived in St. Louis after coming to this country and both made their way to Independence, where they were married in 1849.

Christian Ott established himself in the furniture business in this city and was the pioneer furniture dealer here. He was engaged successfully in business from 1849 to 1890. Two years after retirement from business pursuits his death occurred. Mrs. Ott had preceded him in death in 1886. Both are buried in Woodlawn cemetery. Their children are: Dr. Lambert Ott, Philadelphia, Pa.; Henry Ott, engaged in the furniture business in his native city; Christian Ott, mayor of Independence; Albert M. Ott, of this review; Mrs. Rose B. Ott; Mrs. A. J. Bundscher and Mrs. Fred P. Bacon.

For 13 years, Christian Ott served as a member of the school board of his adopted city and was much interested in the cause of education. The Ott grade school is named in his honor.

Albert M. Ott was educated in the Independence public schools, the Kemper Family School, now the Kemper Military School, at Boonville, Mo., Westminster College, Fulton, Mo. and graduated from the law department of the University of Pennsylvania and began the practice of law in Independence in October, 1887. He became a director of the Chrisman-Sawyer Bank in 1899 and in 1903 he became president of the bank. Of late years he has devoted his entire time and attention to the banking business and has achieved the same success as a banker which he won as an attorney.

Albert M. Ott was married in October, 1890, to Miss Julia Rogers, of Independence, a daughter of Isaac N. Rogers, who for 50 years was connected with the Chrisman-Sawyer Bank and was its first cashier. To this marriage were born two children: Natalie, wife of Frank Gates Wallace; and Julia V. Ott, student in the Missouri State University. Mrs. Julia Ott died in October, 1897. Mr. Ott's second marriage was with Margaret Bryant, a daughter of Prof. George S. Bryant, of Independence. Two children were born of this union: Margaret Louise and Albert M. Ott, Jr.

The Ott family residence is situated at 804 West Waldo street. Mr. Ott filled the office of city attorney for two years, from 1888 to 1890. He



also served two years as prosecuting attorney of Jackson County and served as a member of the school board for seven years. At all times he has been in the forefront of every movement for the advancement and the betterment of his home city. He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery and the Knights of Pythias. He, like his father, has always taken a keen interest in educational matters and he was instrumental in securing the location for the William Chrisman High School.

**The Chrisman-Sawyer Banking Company** is one of the oldest and strongest financial institutions in Jackson County and western Missouri. This bank is the successor of the old branch of the Southern Bank of St. Louis, Mo. It afterwards became known as the Stone, McCoy and Company Bank, a partnership. Mr. McCoy was instrumental in organizing the old First National Bank of Independence and his interests were conveyed to Judge Samuel L. Sawyer, the firm name becoming Stone, Sawyer & Company. In 1869, William Stone died and his interests were conveyed to William Chrisman, the firm then being known as the Chrisman, Sawyer & Company Bank. The capital stock of this organization was \$30,000. The members of the firm were William Chrisman, chairman; Judge Samuel L. Sawyer, died in 1888; John Wilson, died in 1880.

In August, 1877, the business was incorporated as Chrisman, Sawyer & Company, with a capital of \$80,000. It was reincorporated in August, 1897, with a capital of \$100,000 and with a certified surplus of \$100,000. The difference between the original capital of \$30,000 and \$200,000 representing the capital and surplus, showing the earnings of the bank.

William Chrisman was the president of this organization until his death. Judge Sawyer served as vice-president until his death, the cashier being A. F. Sawyer and the assistant cashier having been Isaac N. Rogers. When Judge Sawyer died, A. F. Sawyer became vice-president and upon the death of William Chrisman he was elected president.

Mr. A. F. Sawyer served as president until 1902. Albert M. Ott then became president and is capably filling this position at the present time. The present officers of this bank are: Albert M. Ott, president; Thomas C. Sawyer, vice-president; Rogers M. Hocker, vice-president; Lock H. Sawyer, cashier; assistant cashier, Allan McDowell. The deposits of this bank will exceed \$900,000. The capital stock is \$100,000 with a surplus of \$100,000 and undivided profits of \$22,000.

The Chrisman-Sawyer bank building was erected in 1869 on the site of the store operated by Samuel C. Owens which was the outfitting point

for the Santa Fe and Mexican traders and the gold seekers of the days of '49. The Chrisman-Sawyer Bank is a prosperous and strong financial concern, progressive and during the many years of its existence it has always been identified with every good movement tending to the development and upbuilding of Independence and Jackson County.

**Christopher Columbus Fields**, late well known farmer of Blue township, was born in Kentucky, March, 1840, and died at his home in Jackson County, Dec. 10, 1914. He was a son of William and Amanda (Chiles) Fields, who came from Kentucky to Jackson County in 1840, and settled upon a pioneer farm in Blue township, which they developed and upon which they reared their family. The old Fields home place is now the Sater Necessary farm. Both William and Amanda Fields died on this farm.

C. C. Fields was an infant when his parents brought him to Missouri. He was reared to young manhood in this county. During the Civil War he enlisted in the Confederate Army, with General Price's division, and served until the close of the war, returning to his home on July 2, 1865. When Order No. 11 was issued, in 1863, Mrs. Fields went to Cooper County, and remained there during the winter of '63 and '64, returning home in the spring of 1864. She stayed with her mother and sister and sister-in-law until Mr. Fields came home.

C. C. Fields was married Dec. 5, 1861, to Martha Frances Chrisman, who is now (1920) one of the oldest native born pioneer women of Jackson County. She was born Jan. 11, 1843, in Jackson County, and is a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Yeary) Chrisman, who were natives of Virginia. The Chrismans came to Jackson County in 1832, and Mr. Chrisman entered government land, and also bought land, accumulating a large farm, upon which he reared a large family of children. He died in 1844. Mrs. Chrisman was born Dec. 6, 1803, and died Sept. 11, 1902. There were ten children in the Chrisman family, as follow: The first born died in infancy; Rebecca, Samuel, Edwin, Darthular, Margaret, Charles, Melinda, all deceased; Mrs. Sarah E. Meador, lives in Independence; Mrs. Martha Fields, of this review.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Fields resided on the Fields home place for the first year after their marriage, and during the war Mrs. Fields lived with her mother. They then bought a tract of 40 acres, upon which they erected their first home. They prospered as the years passed, and bought more land. The next purchase was 44 acres; and the next was 36 acres. They then purchased two other tracts of 80 and 40 acres, making 240







MRS. ELIZABETH CHRISMAN.



C. C. FIELDS.



MRS. MARTHA F. FIELDS.





acres in all. The children born to C. C. and Martha Fields are: Mrs. W. B. Powell, a sketch of whom appears in this volume; and Charles William Fields, a farmer of Blue township.

Mr. Fields was deeply religious, and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He was industrious, and enterprising, loved his home and fireside. His life was well spent in good works. Mrs. Fields is the oldest living member of the Fairmount Methodist Church, having joined the church in January, 1862.

**W. B. Powell**, farmer and stockman, owner of a well improved 80-acre farm, one mile south of Salem church, in Blue township, is a native of Ohio. He was born in Noble County, Ohio, Dec. 18, 1865, and is a son of Andrew Jackson and Sinah (Burris) Powell, who some time after the birth of W. B. Powell, removed to Tyler County, W. Va. They returned to Ohio, however, in later years, and both died in Noble County. Jackson and Sinah Powell were the parents of the following children: John C. Powell, Noble County, Ohio; Mrs. Laura Eagan, Newcomerstown, Ohio; and W. B. Powell, of this review.

W. B. Powell was reared in Tyler County, W. Va., and attended the district schools of that county. He was brought up in the vocation of his parents, that of a tiller of the soil, and followed farming in Ohio until 1887, when he removed to Eldorado Springs, Mo. After two years residence there he came to Jackson County. Two years later, in 1891, he located on the farm where he is now residing, a tract of 80 acres, formerly the Thomas Dunning farm. Mr. Powell is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Powell was married in 1890 to Miss Alice Fields, a daughter of Christopher C. and Mattie (Chrisman) Fields. Four children have been born to this marriage, as follow: Elmer C., a farmer on the Fields homestead; Clarence C., at home; Laura, a student in Independent High School; and Forrest, at home.

Mr. Powell and his two sons are members of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, McDonald Lodge, No. 324.

**J. V. Bradley.**—The Paxton-Duke Sales Company, dealers in new and rebuilt automobiles, operated in connection with the Paxton-Duke Motor Company, 312-322 West Maple street, is the largest and most successful institution of its kind in Independence and Western Missouri. The Sales Company was organized and incorporated under the Missouri laws in November, 1917, with William B. Duke, secretary; Edward M. Paxton, president; and J. V. Bradley, vice-president. The Paxton-Duke Motor

Company operated in connection with the foregoing is owned by Raymond P. Sermon, who is manager of the company. This concern operates the largest garage and sales business in the state. A general repair shop is maintained and a large storage room. The Sales Company has the agency of the Dodge automobiles, the White trucks and the Wallace Cub tractors. This firm takes the lead in Missouri in the number of Dodge cars handled through their sub-agency and they take first rank as automobile salesmen in the county.

J. V. Bradley, vice-president of the Paxton-Duke Sales Company, was born near Odessa, Mo., in 1882. He is a son of William and Kizzie (Worden) Bradley, both of whom were born and reared in Lafayette County. Mrs. Bradley died in 1884 and Mr. Bradley resides in Kansas City, Mo., where he has been in the employ of the American Express Company for the past 20 years. The Bradleys have one child: J. V. of this review.

Mr. Bradley was married in 1901 to Mabel Sermon, a daughter of George and Ella (Todd) Sermon, of Independence. Mr. and Mrs. Bradley have a son, George William Bradley. They reside at 803 West Van Horn Road. Mr. Bradley is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is a Shriner and Scottish Rite Mason. He is a member of the Baptist church.

**Henry Rahe**, dairyman and farmer, owner of 60 acres of valuable farm land a few miles southeast of Independence in Blue township, is a native Missourian. He was born on May 27, 1861, on a farm near Mt. Washington, Jackson County. His father, August Rahe, was killed by bushwhackers in 1863, having previously been enrolled in the state militia. Mr. Rahe had been working on his farm and had been taken ill. The men who took his life broke down the door of his home and shot him. It is thought that he had been wrongly reported as having taken part in the war and been unduly active in fomenting trouble. Mr. Rahe, however, was peaceably inclined and desired nothing better than to live at peace with his neighbors and till his farm and care for his family.

The death of August Rahe left his widow with four small children to rear. Prior to her marriage she was Miss Lottie Henderson, born in 1833. She attained the age of 90 years and died in 1903. The children of the Rahe family are as follow: Caroline, Kate and William, deceased; Henry, subject of this review. The widow later married Frederick Rahe and bore him two children: Fred Rahe, a farmer in Jackson County and Emma Rahe.



Henry Rahe has always followed farming and has been successful. He purchased his present home place in 1887 and has placed practically all improvements on it.

Mr. Rahe was married in 1894 to Miss Annie Rummel, a daughter of the late Herman Rummel of Jackson County. This marriage has been blessed with two children, Dorothy, aged 24 years; and Herbert, aged 22 years. He served for two months in the merchant marine during the World War. Miss Dorothy Rahe is a stenographer in the employ of the American Security Company, Kansas City. Herbert Rahe is an auctioneer.

Mr. Rahe is a Republican. He and his family worship at the Methodist Episcopal church. Personally, Henry Rahe is a likable, genial, well informed and sociable citizen—industrious and enterprising. He is well liked by his neighbors and has many warm friends in Jackson County.

**Rev. William L. Hall**, editor and publisher of the *Sniabar Voice*, minister of the Primitive Baptist Church, Blue Springs, Mo., is a native of Virginia. He was born March 25, 1859 in Floyd County, and is a son of Rev. John Curtis and Elizabeth Olive (Harris) Hall, both of whom were born and reared in Virginia, the former in Pittsylvania County and the latter in Floyd County. John C. Hall was a teacher, farmer and a minister of the Primitive Baptist denomination. He moved to Franklin County, Va. in 1862 and taught school in that county where he became prominent in county affairs. He served eight years as county treasurer of Franklin County. Rev. John C. Hall died in Virginia in 1899.

William L. Hall was reared to maturity in Franklin County, Va. and remained there until 1880, when he went to Kansas and located in Franklin County. For the next ten years he farmed in that county and in 1880 he came to Jackson County, Mo., remaining here for the next three years. In 1893 he returned to Kansas and followed farming in Franklin County for the next 14 years. In 1907 he came to Blue Springs and purchased a farm adjoining the city, consisting of 15 acres. For the past eight years he has been engaged in the newspaper business.

Mr. Hall was married Sept. 4, 1879 to Miss Rosalie Akers, who was born in Franklin County, Va., March 12, 1861, and is a daughter of William and Sarah or Sallie Akers. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have three living children: Harry C., a postoffice clerk at Newton, Kan.; Almae C., cashier of the Bank of Blue Springs; Paul R., at home.

Mr. Hall is a Democrat. For the past 36 years he has been engaged in ministerial work in the Primitive Baptist denomination. He began preaching the Gospel in Kansas and was ordained for the ministry at



Gilead church, eight miles east of Wellsville, Kan., in 1883. At the present time Rev. Hall has three charges, preaching for the congregations at Grain Valley or the Little Blue church, where he holds his membership, the Sniabar church, near Wellington, Mo., and the Little Flock church, south of Pleasant Hill, Mo. Rev. Hall is a successful newspaper man as will be attested by the newsy appearance of the Voice, and he is likewise a highly regarded and well respected minister of the gospel. He enjoys the respect and esteem of all classes of citizens and is a man of worth and usefulness in the community.

Eugene E. Montgomery, president of the Citizens State Bank, of Blue Springs, Mo., is a native born citizen of Jackson County, having been born on a farm near Blue Springs, Dec. 12, 1870. He is a son of Isaac N. Montgomery, who was born in Kentucky in 1829, was brought to Jackson County when a child. Isaac N. Montgomery was a son of Levi Montgomery who was one of the early pioneers of this county.

Isaac N. Montgomery was a "forty niner" who crossed the plains and mountains enroute to the gold fields of the Pacific coast and spent several years in the far west. Upon his return, he settled down to farming pursuits. During the Civil War when Order No. 11 was in effect he went to Nebraska and remained in that state until the close of the war. Two of his brothers, Samuel and William, were killed in battle during the Civil War, while in service with the Southern army.

Mr. Montgomery was an extensive farmer, owning over 200 acres of land. During the last ten years of his life he resided near Blue Springs. He was a Democrat and a member of the Missionary Baptist Church. When a young man he was united in marriage with Miss Eliza C. Lowe, who was born in Jackson County, a daughter of John Lowe a pioneer in this county, further mention of whom is made in this volume. Six sons and two daughters were born to this marriage. Mrs. Montgomery died in 1890. She was born Dec. 25, 1840.

Eugene E. Montgomery was reared on his father's farm, attended the district school and finished his education in the State Normal School at Warrensburg, Mo. At the age of 14 years, he entered the private bank owned by E. B. Field as bookkeeper and cashier. In 1890, he with others, bought the Field Bank and he served as cashier of the bank until 1905. The bank was then sold and he organized the Citizens State Bank of which he is now president. In addition to his banking interests, Mr. Montgomery is president and principal owner of the West Side Lumber Company and he is also interested in farm land.

Mr. Montgomery was married in 1899 to Miss Berta Hallar, a daughter of Edward C. Hallar, one of the early pioneer citizens of Jackson County who now makes his home in southern Missouri. The Hallar family is one of the most prominent in Jackson county. Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery have one child, Eugene E., Jr., aged 18 years, now a student in the State University at Columbia.

Mr. Montgomery is a Democrat and a member of the Christian church. He is a Thirty-second Degree Mason, a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Odd Fellows. He is public spirited, popular, obliging and progressive. Mr. Montgomery is a fine type of citizen.

The Citizens State Bank of Blue Springs was organized in 1905 by E. E. Montgomery with a capital of \$25,000. The bank is housed in a substantial brick building which was erected during the first year in which the business was inaugurated. Since its first inception this bank has had a steady and prosperous growth. The total resources have now exceeded \$200,000. Three per cent interest is paid on time deposits and an insurance department is conducted. Every facility for the convenience of customers is maintained and patrons are treated with uniform courtesy. The officers of this bank are: E. E. Montgomery, president; John B. Strode, vice-president; Truston W. Kirby, cashier. The directors are Silas V. Dillingham, John W. Litchford, E. E. Montgomery, John B. Strode and Roy Montgomery.

**John Louis Lowe**, farmer and stockman, owner of a fine farm of 71.75 acres of valuable land situated on the Rock road, within four miles of Blue Springs in Sniabar township, has resided on his place since 1882 and was born and reared in Jackson County, a member of one of the oldest pioneer families in this section of Missouri. A striking example of the rise in the price of farm land in Jackson County is shown by a comparison of the cost of Mr. Lowe's land 37 years ago and its value at the present time. Mr. Lowe paid \$38 an acre for his farm which is now valued at \$300 an acre. John Louis Lowe was born Dec. 8, 1859 and is a son of Calvin V. Lowe who was born in Virginia Dec. 5, 1832 and died in Jackson County, in 1903.

Calvin V. Lowe was a son of John Lowe who came to Jackson County, Mo., in 1844, entered government land east of Independence and there reared his family. His wife was Margaret Summers. John Lowe was born Feb. 24, 1800 and died in June, 1881. His wife, Margaret, was born Dec. 7, 1803 and died in 1867. The children born to John and Margaret Lowe are as follow: Mary Jane, Andrew Wellington, Caroline Serilda,



DeWitt, Calvin Van, Mrs. Ollie Minerva Stayton, Margaret A., deceased wife of Gabriel Stayton, Liza Susan, deceased wife of Isaac N. Montgomery, John M., Agnes Virginia Key, Mrs. Ella Harrel and Louis S. Lowe. John Lowe became owner of considerable land in Jackson County. He was prominent and industrious and was highly esteemed by all who knew him. Margaret Summers, wife of John Lowe, was a daughter of Andrew and Margaret (Miller) Summers, the former of whom was a very wealthy man after whom Summers County was named.

Before the Civil War, when there were no railroads in this country, Calvin V. Lowe was a freighter and plainsman, an occupation which he followed for several years over the old Santa Fe trail. He drove freighting outfits over the long trail to points in New Mexico. After some years of this adventurous employment, he settled down to farming and prospered. He married Mary Elizabeth Moore, who was born March 5, 1840 and died March 10, 1919. She was a native of Jackson County and a daughter of John and Isabelle (Gardner) Moore, further mention of whom is made in the sketch of John W. Moore in this volume. The children born to Calvin V. and Mary Elizabeth Lowe are: Sarah Isabel, deceased, wife of Dudley Dillingham; John L., of this sketch; William A. Lowe, Independence, Mo.; C. D. Lowe, Sniabar township; Richard, living on a farm north of Blue Springs; Margaret, deceased; Edward died at the age of seven years; Samuel L., a farmer living near Blue Springs on the old homestead.

John Louis Lowe of this review, was married Feb. 25, 1885, to Mary Louisa Stewart who was born Feb. 23, 1860, in Illinois. She is a daughter of Samuel and Annie (Wardrip) Stewart who came to Jackson County in March, 1875, and settled on a farm three miles north of Blue Springs. Samuel Stewart was born in 1829 and died in 1901. His wife, Annie, was born in 1825 and died Dec. 4, 1879. Samuel Stewart died in Pleasanton, Kan. Of nine children born to Samuel and Annie Stewart, four are living, as follow: Frank, Fort Scott, Kan.; Mrs. Minda Story, Edgar, Neb.; Mrs. Ada Holloway, Butler, Mo., and Mrs. John Louis Lowe, of this review.

The children born to John Louis and Mary Louisa Lowe are: Beulah, wife of Henry White, Blue Springs, Mo.; Grace Marie Moore, Rosedale, Kan.; Louis Leroy, farmer, near Grain Valley, married Belle Newby; Richard Frank, born July 14, 1897, enlisted in the United States navy, July 14, 1918, left for training camp, Aug. 12th and was in training at Mare Island, Calif., when the armistice was signed. He received his dis-



charge, Jan. 16, 1919; Gladys Louise, aged 17 years, is attending high school at Blue Springs.

Mr. Lowe is a Democrat of the old school. He and Mrs. Lowe are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church.

Mr. and Mrs. Lowe have three grandchildren: R. D. White, son of Mrs. Beulah White; Leona Marie Moore, daughter of Mrs. Grace M. Moore, and Louis Leroy, Jr., son of Louis Leroy Lowe.

**Truston Wyett Kirby**, cashier of the Citizens State Bank of Blue Springs, Mo., is a native son of Jackson County and a member of one of the oldest and most honorable pioneer families of this section of Missouri. He was born on a farm south of Buckner, April 13, 1888 and is a son of William Robert and Susan Rebecca (Capelle) Kirby. His mother was born and reared in the vicinity of Grain Valley on the old Capelle homestead, which is now owned by E. E. Kirby, chief deputy clerk of Jackson County.

William Robert Kirby was born at Bowling Green, Ky., May 6, 1831 and came to Jackson County, Mo. in 1847. He crossed the plains in 1848 to the gold fields of California where, in the course of a few years, he accumulated sufficient funds with which to purchase a farm of 160 acres near Buckner upon which he settled and reared his family of three sons and a daughter. The children of the family are: Edward E., Independence, Mo.; Sallie A., wife of L. J. Slaughter, a well known apple grower northwest of Grain Valley; Durward Kirby, resides four miles north of Grain Valley; Truston W., subject of this review. In October, 1904, Mr. Kirby sold his holdings and retired to a home in Blue Springs. His removal to town was caused by failing health and he died Jan. 8, 1908.

Susan Rebecca Kirby was born April 29, 1841 on the Capelle homestead near Grain Valley. Mr. Kirby was a Democrat and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. His passing in 1908 marked the removal of one of the last of the famous "forty-niners". Mr. and Mrs. Kirby were widely and favorably known throughout this section.

Truston W. Kirby, of this review, attended the Long Branch and the Oakland district schools. After coming to Blue Springs with his parents, he was employed in a local drug store for three years and in 1908 he became connected with the Citizens State Bank. For the first five years he was bookkeeper in this institution. For two years he served as assistant cashier and in July, 1918, he became cashier of the bank and is also a director.

June 3, 1908, Mr. Kirby was married to Miss Myra Bowlin, daughter of James W. and Bettie Bowlin, the latter of whom was a daughter of "Jack" Stone, famous Mexican War veteran who was widely known in Jackson County. James W. Bowlin was a farmer and stockman who removed from his farm to Blue Springs in 1910 and here followed the carpenter trade until his death in June, 1918. Mrs. Bettie Bowlin died in 1906. In addition to his position in the bank, Mr. Kirby has an interest in the Kirby estate consisting of 100 acres of valuable land, 55 acres of which is located south of Blue Springs and 45 acres west of Grain Valley.

Mr. Kirby is a Democrat and has filled the post of city alderman. The members of the family are influential in county affairs and are highly respected. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South and is a member of the board of trustees and treasurer, having served in this capacity for several years, and he is secretary of the Sunday school. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

**Henry C. Chiles ("Brug" Chiles).**—Records of the lives of men who have done things worth while are in themselves valuable. History is but a recital of the deeds of mankind; and the aggregate achievements of individuals in the mass go to make history as it is written. No history, therefore, is complete without accounts of individuals who have had some part in the making of the history of their locality. The late Henry C. Chiles, of Independence, had much to do with the development of Jackson County, and many things are recorded to his credit which he accomplished during a long and useful life. He was a native son of Jackson County, plainsman and freighter in the early days, extensive farmer and stockman, and the pioneer of the modern drainage system for reclaiming wet lands in Jackson County. Mr. Chiles was born on the Chiles homestead, May 23, 1838, and died at his home in Independence, July 3, 1918. He was a son of the pioneers, Joel Franklin and Azubah (Skinner) Chiles, who came from Kentucky to Jackson County and settled here in 1831.

Henry C. Chiles was reared on his father's farm and received such education as the schools of his day afforded, after which he studied at the Masonic College, Lexington, Mo. He made his first trip to the West in 1858, in charge of a herd of government cattle, and went as far as the Black Hills region. Upon his return he conceived the idea of engaging in government freighting on his own account.

He secured a contract for supplying the government forts in the West with beef cattle, and gathered around him a number of young men for his assistants. The cattle were purchased in this section of the coun-



HENRY CLAY CHILES





try, bunched together at Leavenworth, and then driven across the plains in great herds to the different forts. At one time Mr. Chiles drove a large herd of 1,000 head of cattle to Salt Lake City. Indians being troublesome at this time, an escort of 1,000 soldiers was necessary to guard the outfit. When gold was discovered at Pike's Peak, Colo., he was at Fort Laramie. Mr. Chiles continued the life of a plainsman until after the war closed. He hunted deer, antelope and buffalo on the plains, and had many trophies to his credit. His outfit of men were noted for their efficiency and sobriety, it being his adamant rule that no whiskey drinking nor card playing should be permitted en route, and that no profanity should be indulged in by his men. Being a temperance man himself and a man who never indulged in profanity, he would not tolerate it by his men.

After he had made his last trip across the plains he settled down to the occupation of farmer and stock raiser, and made a distinct success of the undertaking. Mr. Chiles purchased a large tract of land in the Buckner bottoms—land which was considered worthless because of no drainage, and known as overflow land. People thought that it could not be cultivated, on account of the wet condition which prevailed during the planting seasons. This land in Fort Osage township is part of a large strip which is said to have been, in years past, a subsidiary or extra channel of the Missouri River, and as a consequence, the soil abounded in fertility. Mr. Chiles had advanced ideas about drainage of wet lands—ideas which were not shared by his neighbors in Jackson County. He proceeded to put these ideas and plans for the drainage of the land into effect. He dug ditches and placed drain tile through the land, so that the water would drain off during the wet seasons, and thus reclaimed it, and was the originator of the modern drainage system in Jackson County. His system prevailed and was successful until the Lexington rock road was built, when the plans had to be changed so as to conform with the highway plan. He then began advocating the digging of the large drainage ditch, which now drains the greater part of the Buckner bottoms, known as the Fort Osage Drainage System. He started the project and lived to see it being pushed to completion. The ditch being finished, and in operation during the past season. The wisdom of the drainage project has been justified by the abundant crops produced as the result of the more extensive drainage system. Mr. Chiles owned 780 acres of land, which he developed and farmed until his removal to a home in Independence, in 1898.

Mr. Chiles was married Dec. 27, 1866, to Miss Julia Perrin, who was

born in Platte County, Mo., July 29, 1847, and died Dec. 10, 1899. She was a daughter of Aitchmonde Perrin. The children born to Henry C. and Julia (Perrin) Chiles are as follows: Miss Janie Chiles, a teacher of mathematics in the Independence High School; Franklin P. Chiles, an extensive farmer and stockman, Fort Osage township; Miss Azubah Chiles, Independence; Miss Margaret Chiles, supervisor of domestic art, Independence schools; Miss Susan Chiles, living at the family home, North White Oak, Independence; Henry P. Chiles, deputy county clerk, living on the old home place; Morton P. Chiles, farmer, living near Blue Mills.

Mr. Chiles was a life long Democrat, took a very active part in every political issue, but refused to accept any public office, never seeking or desiring political preferment. His ambition in early life was to become a lawyer, but poor health caused him to abandon the idea, and upon the advice of his family doctor he took up the life of the plainsman, with the result that he regained his health, became robust from the constant outdoor life, and lived to an age far beyond the average. His knowledge of law caused his neighbors and friends on many occasions to consult with him and secure his advice on legal matters and business affairs which troubled them. Mr. Chiles' general knowledge, especially of sickness and its attendant remedies, made him a valuable neighbor in those days, when medical aid was scarce, and resorting to home remedies was a necessity; later he assisted the doctor, learning to administer an anaesthetic. He was to be relied on in any emergency.

Mr. Chiles, though a man of many friends, could never be persuaded to spend the night away from his own fireside for pleasure. He often said those long rides on horseback at night through virgin forest and over unbroken roads to reach home, made him register a vow he would at any and all times help a good roads project.

From early manhood Mr. Chiles was a member of the Christian church, and gave liberally to the support of churches. He assisted in the building of the Sibley Christian Church, and was superintendent of the Sibley Sunday School for years. Every Sunday, no matter what the condition of the weather, he would drive to Sibley, and take part in the services. He, with Morton Perrin, Orlando Truit, William G. Chiles, and others, organized the Buckner Christian Church, and he was one of the heaviest contributors to the building fund of the church. He was also for years superintendent of the Buckner Sunday School.

During his later years, the young folks of the neighborhood would gather around Mr. Chiles (Uncle "Brug") and he would regale them with



tales of the frontier, and life on the great plains fifty years ago. He was a good story teller, and could relate graphically incidents which had occurred while he was engaged in driving cattle and freighting across the plains. He would tell them of the vast hordes of buffalo, deer and antelope, which had run wild on the plains, and he would tell them of bands of Indians encountered on his travels, and the young folks would listen for hours, entranced at these recitals. He was one of the best posted men in Jackson County, and it is a lasting regret to his many friends that he would never talk or write for publication.

**Morton P. Chiles**, farmer and stockman, operating 425 acres of the Chiles land, located in Fort Osage township, nine miles northeast of Independence, on the old Santa Fe trail road, was born in Fort Osage township, April 22, 1886, and is a son of the late Henry C. Chiles, and a grandson of Joel Franklin Chiles, one of the early pioneers of Jackson County.

Mr. Chiles was reared on his father's farm, and in Independence, where he was graduated from the high school in 1906. Following his graduation he spent one year in a Texas lumber camp, and upon his return to Jackson County he engaged in farming and stock raising. For seven years Mr. Chiles was engaged in the breeding of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle, and sold the product of his farm in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Missouri, and other states. He disposed of his fine herd of Shorthorns in 1919, and is now engaged in general farming and stock raising. His father was also a breeder of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle for several years, and started the first Shorthorn Breeders' Association in this part of the State, about 1878.

Mr. Chiles was married June 4, 1911, to Miss Lulia Shawhan, who was born in Jackson County, March 26, 1893. She is a daughter of Daniel D. and Effie (Harris) Shawhan, of Lees Summit. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Shawhan was engaged in farming in this county.

To Morton P. and Lulia Chiles have been born three children: Morton Perrin Chiles, Jr., born June 6, 1912; Daniel Duncan, born Aug. 11, 1913; and Mary Jane Chiles, Jr., born July 14, 1916.

Mr. Chiles is a Democrat. He and his wife are members of the Christian church. He is a true representative of an old and honored pioneer family in Jackson County, whose members have been known for their industry, integrity, sobriety and progressiveness for nearly a century in Missouri.

**Washington I. Thomason**, president of the bank of Blue Springs, Mo., born in Saline County, Mo., Jan. 1, 1873, and is a son of Rev. J. D. Thomason, former minister of the Missionary Baptist church who had the distinction of having performed more marriage ceremonies during his ministerial career than any other individual in this section of Missouri. Rev. Thomason was a native of Kentucky, who settled in Saline County in 1867. He removed to Blue Springs in 1884 and engaged in the mercantile business in this city. In 1887 he was ordained a minister of the Baptist church and spent the remainder of his days in preaching the gospel and doing good christian works. He filled charges in Saline County, was pastor of the Blue Springs Baptist church, served as pastor of the Oak Grove Baptist church and ministered to the Baptists of Raytown and other points in Jackson and Saline counties. He was known as the "marrying parson" and was popular with all classes as a good, religious man who was an able expounder of the Lord's word and lived according to his own teachings. He died Feb. 17, 1911. Out of 11 children born to his marriage with Isabella Thomason, eight were reared. The others besides Washington I. are: Luther Thomason, truant officer of Kansas City; Claude Thomason, a railroad man of Detroit, Mich.; Mrs. E. C. Jones of Slater, Mo.; Lee Thomason, railroad agent at Higley, Mo.; Russell, a telegraph operator in West Virginia. The mother of these children was born in 1845 and departed this life on March 29, 1901.

After attending the public schools, W. I. Thomason clerked in his father's store until he engaged in the banking business in 1894. For the past 25 years he has been connected with banking, beginning as bookkeeper and advanced to the presidency of the Bank of Blue Springs. For the first few months he was employed in the bank for half days at 25 cents a day. Besides his banking interests, Mr. Thomason is financially interested in the Blue Springs Lumber and Milling Company and he is owner of city property.

June 20, 1900, Mr. Thomason was united in marriage with Gertrude, daughter of Morgan V. Dillingham, a sketch of whom appears in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Thomason have two children: Nell, aged 15 years, and Virginia Belle, 12 years old.

Mr. Thomason is a Democrat, a member of the Baptist church and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Knights of Pythias. He is an enterprising and progressive citizen of the highest type.

The Bank of Blue Springs, Mo., is an old established concern and it



had its inception as a private bank established by E. B. Field in 1883. It was operated as a private concern until 1890, when Mr. Field sold the bank to a company of seven men. The president of the bank was Thomas W. Records who remained in this position until March, 1918, when he was succeeded by W. I. Thomason. The other officers are: M. V. Dillingham, vice-president; Almae C. Hall, cashier; Miss Frances Lockard, assistant cashier; W. I. Thomason, D. M. Dillingham, M. V. Dillingham, E. C. Ford and J. A. Howard are the directors. The bank's capital is \$25,000. The surplus is \$25,000 and the total resources will exceed \$300,000. The business is housed in the bank's own brick building and equipped with modern banking fixtures including a safe deposit vault. Interest is paid on time deposits and an insurance and farm loan department is conducted.

**William G. Gore**, successful retired farmer living at Blue Springs, was born May 28, 1848, in Buchanan County, Mo., on a farm 16 miles south of St. Joseph. He has resided in Jackson County since Dec. 17, 1869.

Louis Gore, his father, was born in 1825 and died in 1909. Soon after his marriage with Hannah Nealey of Mercer County, Va., he came to Missouri in the early forties. In 1867 he came to Jackson County and located one and a half miles southeast of Blue Springs where he purchased 840 acres of land, engaged in farming and stock raising on an extensive scale and in the course of years increased his holdings to 1,300 acres. He purchased his land of William McCoy of Independence, his home place having been first settled by Judge Stitt. Mr. Gore was always a hard worker and a good financial manager who began with no assets to create a fortune. At the time of his marriage he was poor and was wont to say that he could carry all he owned in a shirt when first married. He used a tool chest for his table and tin pans for plates and owned but one horse. Mr. Gore cleared his first farm in Buchanan county from the timber. He reared a family of four sons and four daughters. William G. Gore of this review is the eldest son of the family; the others are: John and Martin, deceased; Mrs. Delilah Cash, southeast of Blue Springs; Mrs. Martha Underwood, northeast of Blue Springs; Levi, resides southeast of Blue Springs; and Mrs. Mary E. Taylor, southeast of Blue Springs; Sarah is deceased.

W. G. Gore came to Jackson county in 1869 and settled on his father's farm and assisted his father in farming for a time and later came into possession of a farm of his own. He is the owner of five tracts of land: five acres comprise his home place in Blue Springs and he has four others



of 60, 40, 40, and 70 acres. His home farm was purchased Aug. 18, 1876 for \$30 an acre and he sold this farm July 14, 1917 for \$230 an acre.

Mr. Gore was married in 1867 to Frances E. Underwood, who died March 6, 1912, leaving children as follow: Louis L., died at the age of three years; Mrs. Emma Scott, living on a farm south of Blue Springs; Mrs. Ollie Lee Scott, died at the age of 23 years; Mrs. Mary Browley, Blue Springs, Mo. Mr. Gore has five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Mrs. Emma Scott has two sons, Ewell, who is married and has one child named Billie Scott; and Herbert Scott. Mrs. Ollie Lee Scott left two children whom Mr. Gore reared, Ina and Forrest. Forrest Scott is married and has one child, Bernard Matthew. The second marriage of Mr. Gore occurred Sept. 24, 1913 with Mrs. Mina Johnson, widow of W. A. Johnson. She was born in Jackson County in 1855, and is a daughter of Charles and Mary (Pryor) Alderman, the former of whom was killed in the Civil War in 1862 and the latter died in 1859.

Mr. Gore is a stanch Wilson Democrat. Both he and Mrs. Gore are members of the Christian church. Mr. Gore joined the Christian church when 16 years of age and Mrs. Gore united with the church and was baptized in the Missouri River when 13 years old.

During his entire life Mr. Gore has been a strong opponent of liquor and has devoted his time and talents to the eradication of the saloons and the suppression of the liquor traffic. He fought the whiskey drug stores and has lived to see National prohibition ushered in as a reward for his labors. He assisted in closing the last saloon in Blue Springs and has made speeches in behalf of temperance and prohibition in all parts of the state. "Uncle Billy" Gore, as he is widely known in Jackson County, is highly respected and liked by all who know him.

**John O. Capelle**, ex-treasurer of Jackson County, and large land owner of Sniabar township, is one of the best known citizens of the county. Mr. Capelle was born Sept. 17, 1851, on a farm one mile west of the present site of Grain Valley. He is a son of Britton M. (born 1809, died 1890) and Sarah A. (Clayton) Capelle (born 1812, died 1871). Britton M. Capelle was a native of North Carolina and whose parents moved to Simpson County, Kentucky, and thence to Jackson County, Missouri, in 1838. Mr. Capelle entered government land and became a large land owner; all of the land which he owned, excepting 80 acres, being still owned by his descendants. During the Civil War, when Order No. 11 was in effect, he removed with his family to Lafayette County. He was active and influential in county affairs, and owned nearly 500 acres of land in

Sniabar township. Britton M. and Sarah Ann Capelle were the parents of eight children: Mrs. Benetta Ann Dyer, deceased; Mrs. Susan R. Kirby, deceased; Charles and Mary M. deceased; Mrs. Martha J. Wright, deceased; David C., deceased; John O., of this review; and Truston Pope, deceased.

John O. Capelle was married in November, 1881, to Miss Elizabeth Duncan, born in Jackson County of Kentucky parents, a daughter of Thomas J. Duncan, who settled in Jackson County as early as 1836. She was born in this county in 1848, and died in 1908.

Two children were born to John O. and Elizabeth Capelle, one of whom is living, Charles Capelle, aged 37 years, an attorney by profession, and employed in the Chrisman Sawyer Bank at Independence.

Mr. Capelle is owner of over 325 acres of land, 200 acres of which is comprised in his home place near Grain Valley, and 80 acres near Oak Grove, and 47 acres one-half mile west of Grain Valley. He is interested financially in the Bank of Grain Valley. Mr. Capelle is a Democrat. He has always been prominent in the affairs of his party, and was elected to the important office of treasurer of Jackson County in 1892, and served in this office during 1893, 1894, 1895 and 1896. He is a Thirty-second Degree Mason, and is also affiliated with the Woodmen of the World.

**Thomas Phelps**, farmer and dairyman, residing near Elm Park, in Blue township, owner of 37 and a half acres of well improved and valuable property, was born on a farm within one-fourth mile of his present home, June 8, 1859. He is a son of Josiah Phelps, who was born in 1819, and died in 1885. His mother, Ann H. Oldham, was born in 1834, and died in 1887.

Josiah Phelps was born in Kentucky. He was three times married, his second wife being a Miss Mabley. He came to Jackson County in the forties and improved a farm on Indian Creek, later settling on a farm east of Independence, where he became well to do and the owner of 360 acres of land. He followed farming and stock raising during his entire life. To Josiah and Anne H. Phelps were born eight children: Erastus O., Independence, Mo.; Thomas, of this review; John, living in Oklahoma; Rosa, deceased; Nicholas H., deputy county marshall of this county; Maxion, a farmer near Blue Springs, Mo.; Jane R., deceased; Mrs. Julia Chapman, Blue Springs, Mo.

Tom Phelps attended the Oldham school and was married when 21 years old. He first rented a farm near Raytown for a few years, and in



1892 purchased his present home place, where he and Mrs. Phelps have one of the pretty country places in Jackson County. Mr. Phelps was married Feb. 15, 1882, to Miss Lizzie E. Shumate, who was born in Ray County, near Richmond, Mo., May 15, 1861. She is a daughter of Samuel (born 1832, died 1904) and Elizabeth (Greenlee) Shumate, the latter of whom was born in 1840, and resides at 1714 Kansas avenue, Kansas City, Mo. Samuel Shumate and his wife were natives of Lawrence County, Ohio. They came to Missouri and settled in Ray County in 1860, moving to a farm near Raytown, Mo., in 1872. They were the parents of seven children: Elizabeth Phelps, of this review; John W., deceased; Charles, residing on a farm near Blue Springs; George, deceased; Silas, Kansas City, Mo., with his mother; Susia, lives with her mother.

An uncle of Thomas Phelps, Richard, or "Dick" Phelps, died while crossing the plains in the early days. Mr. Phelps is a Democrat. He and Mrs. Phelps are members of the Christian church. Mr. Phelps is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World.

**Joel Franklin Chiles.**—No history of Jackson County would be complete without an account of the Chiles family in this county and its various members. This family was established in this county at a time when much of this section of Missouri was a wilderness, and the members of the family, ancestors of those of the present day, were prominent in the early affairs of Jackson County. Their influence was considerable and beneficial, and they have been noted for three generations for their progressiveness and ability to do things worth while. Every public movement of consequence having for its object the promotion of the welfare of the people, has always had the support of the Chiles family. To this day members of this family occupy the same high prestige held by their forebears in the affairs of Jackson County.

The advent of the family into Jackson County begins properly with Henry or "Jack" Chiles, who came here with his wife from Kentucky during the early pioneer days, and settled in Fort Osage township, where he developed a large farm. His wife was Sarah (Ballinger) Chiles, and they had a family of children as follow: John, born Nov. 24, 1790, and died July 27, 1811; Richard B., born Nov. 20, 1792; Henry, born Feb. 1, 1796; Susan, born Aug. 14, 1798; Christopher, born Dec. 1, 1800; James, born Aug. 16, 1803; Joel Franklin, born Jan. 20, 1806; William, born Feb. 20, 1808; Joseph B., born July 16, 1810; and Alexander E., born Nov. 14, 1814.

The Chiles family is of distinctly Southern origin of English descent.







JOEL FRANKLIN CHILES.



MRS. AZUBAH (SKINNER) CHILES.









P. S. CHILES.



C. C. CHILES.



JOEL F. CHILES.



They were first established in old Virginia, and after the Revolutionary period they followed the passage westward of the vanguard of the brave and hardy pioneers who settled and reclaimed the wilderness, then known as Kentucky, or the "Dark and Bloody Ground."

Joel Franklin Chiles, who came to Jackson County in 1831, was born in Clark County, Ky., a son of Henry or "Jack" Chiles. He was born there Jan. 20, 1806, and died at his home in Jackson County, Feb. 1, 1855.

He was married Aug. 6, 1828, to Azubah Skinner, who was born March 14, 1809. In the fall of 1831 he moved from Kentucky to Jackson County, with his wife and two children, Isaac S. and Cornelius Carr Chiles. He settled in Fort Osage township, in what has always been known as the Six Mile country. In the fall of 1832 he began the erection of the Chiles home, which is still standing on the Chiles land, and in a good state of repair. He purchased wooded land at a cost of \$4.00 per acre, and entered large tracts of prairie land from the government. Negro slaves which he brought with him from Kentucky did the greater part of the work of clearing the ground and caring for the crops. The first home of the family was a one-room log cabin. The second house which Mr. Chiles began the erection of in 1832, was a four-room structure, which was built of hard wood lumber, hewn from the forests on the Chiles land. This house has since been weatherboarded and ceiled with hand dressed walnut lumber, and is in a good state of preservation. The original Chiles home place comprised 320 acres, but to this Mr. Chiles added in the course of time several hundred acres of land lying contiguous to the home place.

The children born to Joel Franklin and Azubah (Skinner) Chiles are as follow: Isaac S., born July 9, 1829, was a forty-niner, and died in 1874; Cornelius Carr, born May 30, 1831; Richard Ballinger, born in November, 1833, and died Oct. 31, 1850; William G., born June 22, 1836, see biography; Henry C. Chiles, born May 28, 1838, see biography; Caldwell Chiles, born June 28, 1840, see biography; Phineas S. Chiles, born May 7, 1842, and died Dec. 31, 1918; Mary Jane Chiles, born March 5, 1844; Sarah Margaret, born June 14, 1846, and died May 6, 1899; Joel Franklin Chiles, born July 18, 1848; Eliza Gates Chiles, born June 19, 1850, and died Feb. 29, 1852; Mrs. Anna A. (Perrin) Chiles, born May 13, 1852.

Sarah Margaret Chiles, at the time of the evacuation of Jackson County, in compliance with Order No. 11, drove through to Platte County, Mo., via Lexington, with ox teams. For 20 years prior to her death she was an incurable invalid, and during that long period of suffering she was never known to utter a word of complaint; rather, she was the help-

ful friend to all the countryside. For 12 years she was utterly helpless. Yet, during the entire time, she was always ready to assist her friends, and consoled those whose troubles seemed harder than they could endure. People came to the home to receive heartening and cheerful words at her bedside. They carried to her their troubles, and made her their confident and she advised with them and consoled them. Her time was spent in doing beautiful embroidery work. A patient, lovable woman, whose every deed was a kindness, and who never allowed her mind to dwell upon her own affliction, but thought of her friends and neighbors.

Isaac S. Chiles went to California in 1849, and made his home in that State until his death. Joseph Ballinger Chiles, son of "Jack" Chiles, was born in Clark County, Ky., in 1816, was also a pioneer in California, going to the Pacific coast as early as 1841. Henry Chiles, another son of "Jack" Chiles, was killed in the Florida War in 1838. William Chiles, another son of "Jack" Chiles, went to California in 1849, and subsequently died of cholera.

Joel Franklin Chiles was a well educated man, whose learned proclivities made him extremely useful in the pioneer days of Jackson County. He was a skilled surveyor, whose services were often in demand in the early days. During the Civil War, when Order No. 11 was issued, the members of the Chiles family removed to Platte County, Mo., and remained there until 1864.

William G. Chiles enlisted in the Confederate Army and was taken prisoner by the Federals. Caldwell Chiles served throughout the war under Gen. Joe Shelby, in Morris Langhorne's company.

After the death of their mother, Aug. 4, 1874, the unmarried children of Joel F. Chiles formed a corporation or co-partnership for the management of the Chiles interests, and for years they managed the estate together. Anna Chiles was the first to marry and leave the partnership arrangement. Joel F. was the next to set up a home of his own. After the death of Caldwell and Margaret the sole management and ownership of the estate fell to Miss Mary Jane Chiles, of this review. She has managed wisely and well, adding to the estate until it now comprises the grand total of 999 acres of valuable land, situated west of the Six Mile Baptist Church. This land is in one body and extends for over a mile, almost to the bridge across the Blue River.

Joel Franklin Chiles served as justice of the peace for some years, and took an active part in the early civic and political affairs of his adopted county, in which he was a man of influence. He was a charter



member of Lodge No. 76, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. An appreciation of the man himself which appeared in the Jackson County "Sentinel," on the occasion of his death, in 1855, has this to say of Mr. Chiles: "He had endeared himself to the people of his neighborhood, by his kind and gentle manner, and his gentlemanly bearing. Endowed with a mind, strong, liberal and comprehensive, he readily entered into all schemes and measures presented, whose tendency was to aggrandize the county, or ameliorate the condition of his neighbors. A warm friend to education, he was ever foremost in every scheme to promote its extension. Devoted to the interests of upper Missouri, he was always found ready to promote by his counsel or his means, the development of its resources, and contributed as largely, and perhaps more largely than any other man in the county, to the improvement of the various breeds of livestock. A successful agriculturist, he was a patron of the useful inventions that have been introduced to make farming pleasant and profitable. A kind and affectionate husband, and a devoted father, his death left a void never to be filled. He was always a patron of the church and attended the church services, and in the protracted illness which ended in his death, he expressed his confidence in the truth of religion, and on the day before his death, remarked to a neighbor, a minister of the gospel, that he felt at peace with all mankind, and at peace with God, and that he felt no fear of death."

Phineas Caldwell Chiles, member of one of the oldest of the pioneer families of Jackson County, is farming 200 acres of the Chiles estate in Fort Osage township. He was born in Fort Osage township, Dec. 28, 1883, and is a son of the late Joel F. Chiles, and a grandson of Joel Franklin Chiles, one of the first of the pioneer settlers of Jackson County.

P. C. Chiles was educated in the public schools and William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo. He has always followed farming and stock raising, and has made a success.

Mr. Chiles was married March 1, 1911, to Miss Olive Harrold, of Independence, a daughter of the late Charles Harrold, of Bates County, Mo. Her mother was Emma (Cairns) Harrold, who came to Independence after the death of her husband, and spent her last days in this city. One child has blessed this marriage: Lutie Thornton Chiles, born Dec. 2, 1911.

Mr. Chiles is a Democrat. He became affiliated with Lodge No. 76, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Independence, Mo., in 1909. Many years ago, his grandfather, Joel Franklin Chiles, was one of the charter members of, and assisted in the organization of this lodge.



Tradition and precedent rule strongly among the members of the Chiles family, and P. C. Chiles is emulating his father, as deacon of the Six Mile Baptist Church. He is an excellent citizen, and is progressive in his views, and enterprising.

**William B. Duke**, secretary of the Paxton-Duke Sales Company, was born Dec. 10, 1893, in Independence and is a son of William B. and Henrietta (Stonestreet) Duke. The former was a native of Kentucky and came to Jackson County when a boy, dying here in 1897. Mrs. Henrietta Duke was born in Jackson County and died at the age of 32 years. The children of the family are: Mary, wife of Howard C. Holton, Princeton, N. J. and William B. of this review.

Henry Duke, grandfather of William B. Duke, was a native of Kentucky.

The education of William B. Duke was obtained in the public schools and Wentworth Military Academy, Lexington, Mo. Prior to making connection with the Paxton-Duke Sales Company, Mr. Duke and Edward N. Paxton started a garage on West Maple street which was the forerunner of the present large concern.

Mr. Duke was married Nov. 3, 1907 to Miss Louise Winton, a daughter of M. C. and Nellie Winton, of Independence. Mr. and Mrs. Duke have a daughter, Lucretia Duke. They reside at 511 North Delaware.

Mr. Duke is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

**Elijah Carel**, late citizen of Sniabar township, was a man of worth and integrity, who was industrious and enterprising, and made a success of his farming operations in Jackson County, where he resided for six years prior to his death. Mr. Carel was born in Indiana, in 1850, and died in Jackson County, Aug. 30, 1910. He was united in marriage with Miss Annie E. Dempsey, at Vandalia, Ill., March 2, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Carel came to Missouri in 1875, and first located in Clay County, becoming owners of a farm, which they sold in 1903 and then located in Osage County, Kansas. Floods in that county caused them to sell out and come to Jackson County, where they purchased a fine farm of 100 acres, located nine miles east of Independence, on the rock road. This farm is nicely improved with a brick residence and good buildings, and is very valuable.

Five children were born to Elijah and Annie E. Carel, as follow: Edward, Georgia, Harry, Minnie and Robert. Edward Carel married Miss Jennie Doyle, and is a stationery engineer in Kansas City. Harry

lives at home, married Tina Behr, and has four children, Mildred, Hazel, Bernice and Maude. Mrs. Minnie Hunter lives in Kansas City, and has two children, Frances and George Carel Hunter. Robert lives in Kansas City, married Florence Shepherd and has four children, Vivian, Cyrus, Grace and Robert.

Mrs. Carel is of Pennsylvania ancestry, and was reared by her grandmother, her parents, William and Harriet Dempsey, having died when she was but two years old. She is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

**John B. Strode.**—For nearly four score years the Strode family have been prominently identified with the history of Jackson County and John B. Strode, well-to-do farmer and stockman of Sniabar township is a worthy descendant of sturdy pioneer ancestors. The farm home of Mr. Strode, located three and a half miles north of the town of Blue Springs, is one of the finest in this section of Missouri. Mr. Strode has recently completed a modern residence of seven rooms, fitted with every convenience to make life worth living on the farm. He tore down a large house on the place built in 1875 by his father, Charles E. Strode. Much of the material used in the construction of the old home was in a good state of preservation and went in to the making of the new home. About forty-five years ago, John B. Strode hauled the lumber used in the building of this old home from Independence when but 16 years of age. The Strode farms consist of 293 acres of fertile, well kept and valuable land. The farm is devoted to the production of live stock for the markets and upwards of 300 head of hogs of the Duroc breed and from 75 to 100 head of Hereford cattle are fattened for sale each year. The farm is equipped with one concrete silo having a capacity of 180 tons of silage.

Charles E. Strode, father of John B. Strode, was born in Bourbon County, Ky., Dec. 23, 1814 and died in Jackson County, Mo., Dec. 13, 1882. He was a son of James and Margaret (Foreman) Strode, both of whom were natives of Virginia. James Strode was a government surveyor who located in Kentucky in 1788, in the days when Kentucky was a wild and unsettled region, and Daniel Boone and his brave compatriots were having constant battles with the Indians. His party camped at May's Lick and there he met his future wife. James Strode died in 1828. He had one son, John Strode who fought in the War of 1812. Charles E. Strode, imbued with the pioneering instinct crossed the intervening country and came with the first vanguard of pioneers from Kentucky in 1833. He first settled on the place now owned by L. Gossert, built a log cabin and



made his home there for a few years. Removing to Independence, he operated a blacksmith shop in partnership with his brother-in-law, Robert Weston, and later engaged in the mercantile business. He moved to the Strode farm in 1872 and lived for three years in a log house, then in 1875 building the large eight room house which has recently made way for the modern Strode residence. It might be well to state here, however, that Charles E. Strode came from Tennessee to Missouri, his parents having moved from Kentucky to Tennessee in 1816 and he was reared there to young manhood. During the Civil War he was a Southern sympathizer but took no active part in the struggle between the North and the South. He accumulated a total of 287 acres of land but sold 160 acres, leaving a total of 127 acres in the home place.

Charles E. Strode was a Democrat and was prominent in the affairs of his party in Jackson County. At the time of his death he was judge of the county court and was serving his second term in this official capacity. He was a member of the Christian church and was universally respected as an upright citizen of high integrity and purpose.

When a young man, Charles E. Strode was married to Miss Sarah Weston who bore him children as follow: Charles H., living in California; E. W., died in 1917; Mrs. Mary Cooper, deceased; Florence, deceased; Mrs. Ella Parker, Miami County, Kan.; John B., of this review; Mrs. Belle Smith, Mercer County, Ill.; Walter, living at Bates City, Lafayette County, Mo.. The mother of the foregoing children was born in 1820 and died in 1898. She was born near Malta Bend, Saline County, Mo. and was a daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Clemonson) Weston. Samuel Weston was of Scotch-Irish descent and his wife was a daughter of English parents.

John B. Strode attended the Independence schools and was 13 years old when his father moved to the farm. He cared for his father on the home place to the end of his days and came into possession of the home place through inheritance and purchase. It is self evident that he has succeeded in his life vocation when one gets a view of his broad acres and splendid home surroundings. Two sets of improvements are located on the Strode farms.

The Strode family is of English origin and traces back to the time of Charles I. The Strodes were arrayed on the side of the Stuarts during the struggle between the royal family and the Stuarts—and the head of the family was forced to flee for his life.

October 11, 1888, John B. Strode was united in marriage with Miss Dollie Stayton, a daughter of Moses Stayton, who was a son of John



Stayton an early Jackson County pioneer who became owner of 1,700 acres of land which stretched from Fairmount church to Independence in the early days. The wife of Moses Stayton was Lucy Hite who was born in Kentucky and came to Miller County, Mo.

John B. and Dollie Strode have reared four children: Herschell, Inez, James Pascal and Edith. Herschell Strode was born Nov. 29, 1889, married Nellie Harris and has one child, John. He is a farmer near Blue Springs. James Pascal Strode was born May 23, 1892, married Leola Hall and has one child, Dorothy. Inez Strode was born Oct. 24, 1894 and is at home with her parents. Edith Strode was born Aug. 15, 1897 and is at home.

Mr. Strode has always been a Democrat and a member of the Christian church. He is one of the best informed citizens of Jackson County, who can converse intelligently on many subjects. Gifted with a good memory, a student of history, he is keenly alive to the understanding of the great events of recent and present years. Mr. Strode is widely and favorably known in Jackson County and stands high among his fellow men as a worthy member of society.

**William M. Cruwell.**—On the Cruwell homestead, southeast of Independence, in Blue township, is located one of the old time log houses of ante bellum days. This structure was erected by John Marshall during the early thirties and was built by slave labor. It is remarkable from the fact of its size, the house being two stories in height with two large rooms on the ground floor, separated by a hallway. Immense stone chimneys are situated at each end of the house, and wide cavernous fireplaces fill the corresponding ends of the rooms. Mr. Cruwell made his home in this log house for four years after purchasing the farm in 1882, and then erected his present handsome frame house, which sets far back from the highway.

William M. Cruwell was born in Franklin County, Missouri, Dec. 22, 1838. He is a son of Lewis Cruwell, who died in 1845. His mother was Mary (Engel) Cruwell, who died in 1848. Left an orphan at the early age of seven years, William M. Cruwell was reared among strangers, and worked out for as low as 10 cents a day during his boyhood. For a time when he was grown he worked as a laborer in Franklin, Mo., and during the seventies he bought a farm in Osage County, which he cultivated until he came to Jackson County, in 1882, and bought his present homestead of 120 acres, which he has improved into a valuable and handsome place.

Mr. Cruwell is a Union veteran of the Civil War. He enlisted in the United States Reserve Corps in 1861, and served for three months, and during the remainder of the war he served in the State militia.

Mr. Cruwell has been three times married. His first marriage occurred in 1866, and was with Sophia Hagenbush, who died one year later, in Franklin County, Missouri. In 1870 he was married to Sophia Showengirt, who died in 1878. He was married the third time, in Osage County, to Louisa Meyer, who died in 1917. Mr. Cruwell has one daughter and three sons: Andrew, a farmer, living near Blue Springs; Benjamin, Ernest, living on the home place; Emma is the wife of Nicholas H. Phelps, deputy marshall of Jackson County.

Mr. Cruwell voted twice for Abraham Lincoln, and has voted for every Republican candidate for President since the close of the Civil War. He is a member of the Methodist church, and is affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic.

**Caldwell Chiles.**—There is something in the life of every successful man which distinguishes him as different from the ordinary run of human kind. The late Caldwell Chiles, member of the pioneer Chiles family of Jackson County, is remembered as a lovable and generous character, whose faults, if any, were an unwonted generosity and kindness to those with whom he came into contact. He is called by those who were intimate with him, "The Prince of the Chiles Family," because of the fact that his purse was ever open to assist the needy. He never turned away a friend or acquaintance who sought his assistance in time of need, and he was always found in the forefront of movements tending to the general good of all the people.

Caldwell Chiles was born in Jackson County, on the old Chiles homestead in Fort Osage township, June 28, 1840, and died May 18, 1900. He was a son of Joel Franklin Chiles, and was descended from Lieut.-Col. Walter Chiles, who emigrated from England to Virginia aboard his own vessel in 1638. His grandfather, John Chiles, was born in Virginia, and moved to Kentucky during the early settlement of that State. His uncle, Joseph Ballinger Chiles, born in Clark County, Ky., went from Jackson County, overland to California in 1843, spending the balance of his life there; so that without the scope of one life time, his immediate family spanned the American continent by migration and settlement, arriving at the shores of the Pacific ocean far in the van of the pioneer host.

Reared to young manhood in Jackson County, when the Southern



CALDWELL CHILES.





states seceded from the Union, Caldwell Chiles joined the Missouri Militia and was in several engagements which were fought during the early part of the war to preserve the neutrality of Missouri, and prevent the coercion of the Confederacy. He received his baptism of fire at the Battle of Lexington. The effort to preserve Missouri as a neutral State proving hopeless, he went South and joined with his comrades under General Price, and he was sworn into the service of the Confederate Army. He was a member of Langhorne's troop, Colonel Shank's regiment, Gen. Joe Shelby's brigade. Private Chiles repeatedly declined promotion, and served faithfully to the end as a common soldier. At Helena, Ark., he suffered a broken leg as a result of being hit with a rifle ball, and was taken prisoner. Immediately after his recovery he made his escape from prison, and rejoined his comrades.

He participated in General Price's expedition through Missouri in 1864. The route of march led past his home, where he stopped for a brief visit and received the ministrations of his mother and sisters. A few days later he sat on his horse under fire at the Battle of Westport, and there partook of food given him by relatives who lived in the vicinity of the battle field. It is a strange thing that history records these men as "Raiders and invaders," in the land of their birth, and under the very roof trees where they were born. Captain Langhorne once made the remark that "Colly" Chiles was one of the best soldiers he ever knew, as "he never got hungry, tired or cold." This remark was strongly descriptive of his entire life and character. He was quiet, steadfast, cheerful, and uncomplaining. At the close of the war he returned to his old home, and resumed his occupation of farmer and stockman. With the exception of a few years spent in farming in Grayson County, Texas, with his brother, William G. Chiles, he lived the remainder of his days in his native county.

Caldwell Chiles amassed a considerable fortune, and his affairs were so conducted as to be of help to others as well as of benefit to himself. Many of his old neighbors owe their success to his assistance, given not in a spirit of patronizing charity, but given with the desire to render a mutual benefit.

As in the great war in which he offered his life in the beginning of his manhood for his people—his kinsman of the South—so also in his after years he was constant and faithful to his own. His best efforts were always readily and willingly put forth for the improvement and uplifting of his community, and his great influence and achievements were

highly valued and appreciated by his friends and neighbors. However, he always avoided publicity and public honors, preferring to expend his efforts for the public good in his own, quiet, unobtrusive way.

**Calvin D. Lowe.**—The “Best Forty in Jackson County” is the general opinion of the farm owned and operated by Calvin D. Lowe, of Sniabar township. The Lowe “Forty” is located three miles northeast of Blue Springs, and is one of the richest and best improved tracts in Missouri. The place is improved with a handsome farm residence, fronted by a lawn, shaded by locust trees, and is equipped for general farming. This place has an orchard, consisting of an acre of bearing trees and fruit of all kinds, which produces a good income. Any man with energy and industry can make a good living on 40 acres of Jackson County land, and Mr. Lowe has proved the truth of the assertion. He feeds all of the grain grown on the place to livestock, and thus markets the output of his farm on the hoof, the most economical and the most productive way of farming. Mr. Lowe purchased his farm in 1910, at a cost of \$150 an acre, remodeled the residence, and has otherwise improved the place until it is easily worth \$300 an acre, but it is not for sale.

Calvin D. Lowe was born in Pike County, Missouri, Dec. 31, 1863, and is a son of Calvin V. Lowe, a Jackson County pioneer, concerning whom a full account is given in connection with the sketch of John Lewis Lowe in this volume. While Calvin V. Lowe was an old time resident of Jackson County, the reason of his son's birth in Pike County is explained by the fact that when Order No. 11 was issued during the Civil War, Calvin V. Lowe removed with his family to Pike County, and there remained until the war was over, and it was safe to return to Jackson County.

C. D. Lowe was reared to manhood in Jackson County, and his home was adjacent to the town of Blue Springs, where the family located in 1881. He attended the Eureka district school during his boyhood days, and began doing for himself when he became of age. He worked for his father on the wage and share system until he attained the age of 43 years, and in 1906 he began farming on his own account. He resided on the home place and cared for his aged mother until 1910, when he bought his present place.

Mr. Lowe was married in 1907 to Lulu Dillingham, daughter of Collin J. Dillingham, of Blue Springs, Mo.

He is a Democrat, and is a member of the United Presbyterian Church.



**Luther O. Johnson**, farmer and orchardist, Sniabar township, is one of Jackson County's most successful agriculturists. His fine farm of 147 acres, located four miles northeast of Blue Springs, is a valuable one, and is well improved. The Johnson orchard consists of 60 acres of bearing trees, 40 acres of which were set out about 18 years ago, 20 acres were planted 15 years ago, and a number of acres are planted to young trees. This orchard has had the best of care, and has been scientifically sprayed each season. The apple crop was sold on the trees in 1919 for \$5,500. Mr. Johnson has recently purchased an additional tract of 22.5 acres from the Williams estate, and he has also invested in an improved tract of 20 acres, near the Milton farm—land which is very high priced and valuable. He has been offered \$1,000 for his bargain since he purchased this place.

L. O. Johnson was born April 9, 1856, on a farm located within three miles of his present home place. He is a son of David and Frances E. (Cook) Johnson, both natives of Virginia, and early pioneers in this county. David Johnson was born in 1825, and was killed during the Civil War, in 1863. While attending to his own business during war time, he was taken prisoner by Federals, who acted upon prejudiced information, given by a former tenant of his, taken with other prisoners to Chicago, where his death occurred.

At the time of his death there were 15 living children in the family. However, the elder Johnson was a man of means, and the family was left well provided for; all were reared to maturity, and nine are still living, as follow: Henry, resides with his son, Thomas, in Jackson County; Carroll, residing near Buckner, Mo.; Harvey, lives at Grain Valley, David, lives in Texas; Lee, resides in Oak Grove; Luther O., of this review; Banner, lives in Kansas City; Mrs. Susan Vaughn, lives in Oklahoma; Mrs. Augusta Hinkston, Independence, Mo.; and Mrs. Lucy Bostwick, William, Larken, Thomas, Mary and Sarah are deceased. The mother of these children died in 1887, at the age of 65 years.

When 28 years of age, L. O. Johnson began farming on his own account. He cared for his mother during her old age, and when it came time for him to own a farm of his own, he purchased 117 acres from the estate from the heirs with borrowed money. Upon this tract he resided for two years, and in 1886, he bought 122.5 acres near Buckner, borrowing money from Neal Chiles with which to make the investment. In 1892 he bought 80 acres of his present home place, set out his orchard, and has been steadily accumulating land since.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1884 to Miss Naomi Johnson, a native of Jackson County, and a daughter of Larken Johnson. The children born to this marriage are: Rufus and Clifton C. Rufus Johnson lives on a farm adjoining the home place, and is a farmer. He married Stella Phillips.

Corp. Clifton C. Johnson was born March 1, 1890, served in the World War with the American forces in France. He left home for the training camp July 5, 1918, and took part in some of the bitterest fighting on the Western Front in France, fighting in the Argonne forest and St. Mihiel. During the latter engagement his pack was shot to pieces and he narrowly escaped death a score of times. He was honorably discharged from the service and arrived home Sept. 22, 1919.

Mr. Johnson is a Democrat. He is well informed, progressive, enterprising, and is rated as one of the substantial and well to do citizens of Jackson County, who has made good.

**John S. Cogswell.**—"Fairside," the home of John S. Cogswell, consisting of 10 acres, splendidly improved, adjoining the fair grounds, just east of Independence, is noted for the pure-bred Duroc-Jersey hogs which are bred and sold on the place. Mr. Cogswell has been a breeder of swine since 1884, when he began breeding Poland China hogs. He changed to the breeding of Duroc-Jerseys in 1917, and has built up a reputation which extends throughout the country. He keeps from 75 to 100 head of fine stock on the place at all times, and has annual sales, at which the product of his skill as a breeder brings good prices. He has sold hogs to buyers in all parts of the United States, some of which have brought \$200 per head. The leader of the Cogswell herd of Durocs is "Jackson Orion Boy," which cost him \$650, and for which he has been offered \$1,000.

John S. Cogswell was born in Jackson County, Dec. 5, 1867, on a farm between Buckner and Sibley, in Fort Osage township. During his boyhood days he used to go to mill at Sibley, riding an old gray horse, and carrying a sack of grain so large that when it happened to slip from the horse, he was unable to put it back in place. Mr. Cogswell recalls that the mill men would run the bran out into the Missouri River, thus wasting a product which is now very high priced.

William M. Cogswell, his father, was born in Kentucky, Feb. 22, 1822, and died June 5, 1901. He married Anna Brown,<sup>1</sup> who was born in Virginia, in 1842, and died in 1886. She was a daughter of John S. Brown, who came to Jackson County in the early thirties. William M. Cogswell



served in the Mexican War in Colonel Doniphan's regiment, and also served in the Civil War, under Gen. Jo. Shelby. William M. Cogswell was a son of James Cogswell, who was also a pioneer in Jackson County, and who brought his slaves with him when he made the trip from Kentucky to Missouri to find a new home in this, then sparsely settled, country. Both Mr. Brown and Mr. Cogswell became large land owners and were prominent in the affairs of Jackson County.

The Cogswell place was located near Bone Hill, and for a number of years the elder Cogswell filled the office of justice of the peace, winning a great reputation for his ability to settle disputes and threatened legal cases out of court. It was his policy as justice to bring disputants together, find a middle ground upon which they could agree, and then persuade them to settle their differences.

Both parents of John S. Cogswell are buried in Buckner cemetery. The remains of John S. Brown are interred in the burying ground of Greens Chapel, while those of James Cogswell are interred in the family burial ground on the old Cogswell homestead. The children born to William M. and Anna Cogswell are as follow: William M. has been assistant overseer of the county farm for the past 15 years; Mrs. Mollie Pennington, deceased; John S., of this review; Mrs. Sallie Duncan, deceased; Mrs. Lizzie Fein, lives near Buckner; Joseph, a farmer near Buckner.

John S. Cogswell received his schooling in the Cogswell school house, and began earning his own way when 18 years old. When 14 years old he worked out for 50 cents a day, and his working hours were from daylight until dark. Mr. Cogswell recalls that this was the hardest work he ever did in his life, and it is only natural that he has little sympathy for the tendency of labor in these times to do a minimum amount of work in short hours for the greatest amount of pay. He began farming on his own account when 20 years of age, and purchased his first farm in Fort Osage township in 1901. He bought another place in 1902, sold this and then bought 75 acres in the Salem neighborhood in 1905. For this farm he paid \$139 an acre, at the time the highest price hitherto paid for Jackson County farm land. He sold this farm for \$225 an acre, and it has since been sold for \$250. Mr. Cogswell removed to his present place, adjoining Independence, in 1916.

Feb. 3, 1892, he was married to Miss Miriam J. Barnes, who was born in Platte County, Missouri, March 5, 1869. She is a daughter of Eldridge and Buena Vista (Patton) Barnes, both natives of Georgia. They came to Jackson County in 1871. Mr. Barnes was a soldier in the



Confederate Army during the Civil War, and now makes his home at Oak Grove. He was born in November, 1838. Mrs. Barnes was born in 1849, and died in 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes were the parents of the following children: A. H. Barnes, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Miriam J. Cogswell, of this review; Cora died at the age of eight years. By a second marriage with Mary Frances Sites, Mr. Barnes is the father of two children: Robert, Kansas City, Mo., and Roy, Oak Grove.

The children born to John S. and Miriam J. Cogswell are: Melva, wife of Joe T. Doyle, Clinton, Mo., mother of one child, Maxine Jo; and John E. Cogswell, aged 18 years, a senior in high school.

Mr. Cogswell is a Democrat. He and Mrs. Cogswell are members of the Christian church, and he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

**Edgar Goodloe.**—The dairy farm of Edgar Goodloe, situated in Blue township, 12 miles southeast of Independence, on the Woods Chapel rock road, is one of the best improved farms in Jackson County. This farm consists of 79 acres, and maintains a herd of 30 head of Jerseys, Short-horns and Holsteins. The milk product of the dairy is sold in bulk. It is stated, on reliable authority, that this farm is the scene of a historic incident during the days of the Border War. The Quantrell raid upon Lawrence, Kan., is said to have had its inception in the yard of this farm, when a number of men under Quantrell's leadership met in the darkness of night and planned the details of the invasion and subsequent raid.

Edgar Goodloe was born Oct. 15, 1886, on a farm just across the road from his present home. He is the son of James W. Goodloe, who was born Aug. 6, 1846, and died Dec. 14, 1909. James W. Goodloe was a son of Lilburn Goodloe, a pioneer settler of this county, who entered and cleared considerable land in Jackson County. From the time he attained the age of 14 years, James W. Goodloe was reared in this vicinity, and upon attaining his majority, he married Miss Belle Porter, a daughter of Hugh Porter, of Blue Springs. Mrs. Belle Goodloe was born in 1863, and makes her home with her son, Edgar. Two sons were born to James W. and Belle Goodloe, namely: Everett Goodloe, living in Kansas City, and Edgar Goodloe, of this review.

The place which Mr. Goodloe is farming is the home place of his parents, upon which he has erected a number of improvements, such as a neat residence to supplant a large, old brick house, which had been built by one of the early owners of the land. The Goodloe dairy is well equipped with labor saving machinery, such as a milking machine, etc.,

and is conducted in a sanitary and economical manner. Two hours time suffice to milk 26 cows.

Edgar Goodloe attended the ward school of Kansas City, Central High School, and the Kansas City Business College. He established his dairy in 1917. He was married on June 5, 1910, to Miss Clara Inlow, of Blue Springs, a daughter of William and Martha Inlow. The children born of this union are: Martha Belle, born Aug. 5, 1913; Mary, born Nov. 29, 1914; Vera, born Dec. 31, 1915; Edgar, born April 23, 1919.

Mr. Goodloe is a stanch Democrat. The Presbyterian church is the place of family worship. He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Blue Springs, and is a live, progressive and enterprising citizen.

**Theodore Pressly.**—Situated at the forks of the two main roads, 10 miles southeast of Independence, is one of the most attractive farm homes in Jackson County, owned by Theodore Pressly. The Pressly farm consists of 118 acres of valuable farm land. The place is devoted to general farm, stock raising and dairying. Mr. Pressly owns a herd of 23 head of cows, five of which are pure-bred Jerseys.

Theodore Pressly was born in Boone county, Indiana, June 7, 1871. He is a son of J. T. and Julia A. (Wiley) Pressly, natives of Indiana. J. T. Pressly was a Union veteran of the Civil War. He resided in Indiana until 1875, and then made the trip to Nebraska, where he homesteaded land in Kearney County, taking up a soldier's claim of 160 acres of farm land, and also filing on a tree claim of 160 acres. He erected a sod house which was the first home of the family on the plains of Nebraska. This was later supplanted by a frame house. In 1884, he sold his land in Nebraska and removed to Howell County, Missouri. He resided in Howell County from November, 1884, to March, 1896, when he moved to Kansas City. He was twice married. His first marriage was with Julia Ann Wiley, who bore him the following children: William Roy, of Corsicana, Texas; Edwin K., Dalls, Texas; Theodore, of this review; Albert, St. Clair County, Missouri; Ora, living on a farm north of Blue Springs; Wiley G., Mt. Washington, Mo.; Mrs. Lora Alice Leonard, living in Colorado; John T., Jr., lives in Arizona. The mother of these children died on Jan. 19, 1892. Sometime later John T. Pressly married Margaret Boyd, who bore him four children: James A., Mary, Leona and Emmett.

The first school which Theodore Pressly attended was a little sod house on the Nebraska plains. He later attended school in Howell County, Missouri. In 1892 he began making his own way in the world, and has



achieved one of the distinct successes in Jackson County. In 1903 he purchased his present farm. Practically every improvement has been placed upon the Pressly place by the present owner, and Mr. Pressly is still building with an eye to the future, and he is imbued with a desire to produce one of the finest places in Jackson County.

Sept. 22, 1897, Theodore Pressly and Emma Mary Ricketts were united in marriage. Mrs. Emma M. Pressly was born in Wilson County, Kansas, and is a daughter of Jeremiah Clay and Nancy Ricketts, the latter of whom makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Pressly. Three children have been born of this marriage: Pearl, John Lee and Hadley.

Mr. Pressley is a Republican, a member of the Christian church, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Blue Springs.

**Frank P. Chiles.**—The most extensive live stock producer and feeder in Jackson County is, without doubt, Frank P. Chiles of Fort Osage township. Mr. Chiles has been a stockman since early manhood and has achieved a success in his business which is remarkable. To successfully produce and feed live tock for the markets in large numbers requires a knowledge of stock above the average, business acumen and ability of a high order, and daring to proceed on a large scale. Mr. Chiles has these qualifications and has made good. His home farm, consisting of 750 acres near Buckner on the Lexington road, is equipped for the purpose of handling large numbers of cattle and hogs and is adapted to the production of corn, being mostly bottom land of high fertility. Three concrete silos store forage for the winter feeding and a large residence sets on the hill side. In addition to this farm Mr. Chiles owns 1,000 to 1,200 acres in Bates County, one and a half miles east of Drexel. During his career he has fed more hogs and cattle than any other man of his age in Jackson County. Mr. Chiles' operations call for the feeding and marketing of from 1,000 to 1,200 head of hogs and from 300 to 800 head of cattle annually. He keeps from five to six men in his employ the year around.

Frank P. Chiles was born in Jackson County, July 6, 1870, and is a son of the late Henry C. Chiles, one of the best known citizens of the past decade in Jackson County and who was a son of Joel Franklin Chiles, one of the first pioneer settlers of this county. A biography of Henry C. Chiles appears in this volume as does that of Joel Franklin Chiles, the first of the family to locate in this county in pioneer days.

Mr. Chiles was educated in the public schools and attended Woodland College when it was in charge of Prof. George Bryan. He began his career as a stockman under his father when but a young man and has



the satisfaction of having accumulated all that he possesses through his own efforts. He is essentially a self made man.

Mr. Chiles was married in 1897 to Miss Beall Hudspeth, of Jackson County, a daughter of Joel Rufus Hudspeth, a sketch of whom appears in this volume. The children born to this union are: Richard, Sarah, Frank P., Jr., Henry Clay and Annabel.

Richard Chiles, the soldier of the family, was born in June, 1899. He graduated from the Buckner High School and is a student at the Missouri State University. In June, 1917, he enlisted, the day after his graduation from high school, in the tank corps of the National army and was among the first to be sent to France where he participated in the hardest fighting on the Western front, taking part in the Battle of the Argonne Forest and was awarded the Croix de Guerre for bravery in battle. He was discharged from the service on May 1, 1919 and is now studying at the State University.

Miss Sarah Chiles is a student at William Woods College, Fulton, Mo.

Mr. Chiles is a Democrat but has little time for political matters. He is a member of the Christian church and is well and favorably known throughout Jackson County as a successful and enterprising citizen.

**William B. Howard.**—The accomplishments of the late William B. Howard, of Lees Summit, will long be in evidence. Builder of a large estate, founder of a prosperous town, liberal in his donations to public and religious enterprises, Mr. Howard was a man worth while to his adopted county. William B. Howard was born March 10, 1821, in Jefferson County, Kentucky, and died at his home at Lees Summit, July 13, 1896. He was a son of John Howard, of Maryland, who was of English descent. His paternal great-grandfather was the nearest heir to the Duke of Norfolk, England, but forfeited all rights to the dukedom by immigrating to America. John Howard moved to Kentucky in 1800, with the vanguard of the hardy pioneers who paved the way for the development of what was then known as the "Dark and Bloody Ground." He married Annie C. Bullitt, of Jefferson County, Kentucky. She was a daughter of Col. Alexander Bullitt, of Virginia, who was a Kentucky pioneer, and who served as president of the first constitutional convention of his State. Mr. Howard settled within nine miles of the present city of Louisville. His children were: William B., of this review; Helen M., deceased; Mrs. Anna C. Courtney, of Louisville, Ky.

W. B. Howard was reared on his father's farm in Kentucky, and was educated in the common schools. He made a visit to Missouri when a

young man and purchased 220 acres of land in 1842. Feb. 8, 1844, he was married to Maria D. Strother, of Bardstown, Ky., a daughter of John D. Strother. April 1, 1844, Mr. Howard located on a farm in Blue township, cleared the land of timber, and erected a home. In 1850 he moved to a point within five miles of Lees Summit, and purchased a tract of 833 acres, consisting of prairie and timber land. Four hundred acres of this land was fenced and improved, with a log cabin. In 1854 he erected a large residence, which is still standing, and increased his acreage. During the Civil War he was harassed by bushwhackers, and was arrested in October, 1862, by order of Colonel Pennock, Federal officer in command at Independence, and he was placed in jail. After one month's durance he was released on \$25,000 bond and permitted to go to Kentucky. His wife at this time was in poor health, and she died in Kentucky, Feb. 16, 1865, leaving the following children: William Bullitt, born May 10, 1846, died in 1851; and Anna Strother, born Feb. 18, 1848, married George F. Lee, and resides in Louisville, Ky. Upon his return to Jackson County, Mr. Howard found his farm run down, grown up with brush and shrubs, and found that the house had been partly burned. However, throughout the war, when other places had been burned to the ground, the Howard home had had protection. He persuaded some neighbors to move into his home, and proceeded to again place his farm in cultivation, and soon rehabilitated the estate.

Mr. Howard became owner of a large estate of 2,300 acres. In October, 1865, he laid out the town of Lees Summit, intending to give it the name of Strother, but the engineer in charge named the new town, as it is now called. Lees Summit has grown to be one of the important and thriving towns on the line of the Missouri Pacific Railway, and is an important livestock center and shipping point. Mr. Howard gave to the city, Howard Park, consisting of 20 acres, and built thereon a half-mile racing track, 60 feet in width, and also a quarter mile track, 40 feet wide. He also donated lots to the churches of the city, which he founded. He was one of the founders of and a director of the Bank of Lees Summit. Nov. 20, 1884, he removed to Lees Summit and from that time until his death, he was thoroughly identified with the life of his town.

Sept. 19, 1867, Mr. Howard was married to Mary C. Jones, who bore him children as follow: Maria E., born July 6, 1868, wife of John R. Ransom, police commissioner of Kansas City, and mother of three children, Kathryn, John and Elizabeth Ransom; Robert M. Howard, born Sept. 17, 1870, living on the old homestead, married Irene Taggart, who



died Sept. 1, 1919, leaving one son, William Howard; Mrs. Mary Bullitt Browning, Lees Summit, born Aug. 5, 1873, mother of two sons, Howard and Phelps; Thomas C. Howard, a sketch of whom appears in this volume; Florence C., born June 7, 1879, wife of O. H. Dove, Kansas City, and she has one son by a former marriage, George Peake; William B. Howard, born May 26, 1887, married Ella Collins, and resides at Lees Summit.

The mother of the foregoing children was born in Howard County, Missouri, in 1843, and departed this life in 1910. She was a daughter of William C. and Elizabeth (Jones) Jones, natives of Virginia and Tennessee, respectively, who came to Missouri in 1840. During the Civil War, William C. Jones went to Idaho, and died at Fort Laramie in 1863. Prior to her marriage, Mrs. Mary C. Howard taught school. She was a woman of fine education.

Mr. Howard was active in the Democratic party, but never sought political preferment, the only office which he ever held being that of treasurer of the school board for a number of years. In filling this office, he was enabled to further the cause of education in his home community. He was steward of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, for 50 years, and taught the bible class for a number of years. He was widely known for his liberality and progressiveness, and is remembered by those who knew him as a kind and just man—successful in business. As a stockman, Mr. Howard was one of the builders and developers of Jackson County.

**Thomas C. Howard**, farmer and stockman, and owner of 360 acres of land in Prairie and Blue townships, on the Woods Chapel highway, within nine miles of Independence, was born Nov. 19, 1875, on the Howard homestead. He was reared and educated in Jackson County, and attended the public schools of Lees Summit. Mr. Howard has always followed farming and stock raising, and is now operating a dairy in connection with his farm.

Thomas C. Howard was married Oct. 9, 1901, to Miss Nellie Hockenberry, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Hockenberry, of Jackson County. Two children have been born to this marriage: Elizabeth, aged 17 years, a graduate of the Lees Summit High School, and now a student in the Christian College at Columbia, Mo.; and Thomas, Jr., aged nine years.

Mr. Howard is a Democrat, and is a member of the Christian church. He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Lees Summit.



**William T. Helm**, farmer and orchardist, located four miles east of Independence, in Blue township, has one of the finest orchards and prettiest farmsteads in this section of Missouri. The Helm farm consists of 67 acres, 23 acres of which are devoted to orchards. The Helm orchard is 17 years old, and produces Johnathans, Grimes Golden, York Imperial, Black Twig and Mammoth apples, which command a ready sale at good prices. The output of these orchards will range from 2,500 to 4,000 bushels annually, and is sold to local dealers, and consumers of Independence and Kansas City.

William T. Helm was born Aug. 17, 1860, in eastern Jackson County, and is a son of James Thomas Helm, a native of Jackson County, who lost his life in August, 1862, at the Battle of Lone Jack, while serving with the Confederate forces during the Civil War. He was a son of Hiram Helm, a native of Kentucky, and early pioneer of Jackson County. At James T. Helm's death two children were left fatherless: William T., of this review, and George Helm, born April 19, 1862, who died Oct. 3, 1914.

James Thomas Helm was a son of Hiram Helm, a native of Kentucky, who was one of the pioneer settlers of Jackson County. In early manhood J. T. Helm married Matilda Corn, who was born in this county, a daughter of John Corn, in 1841, and departed this life Jan. 13, 1914. She was married the second time to Thomas Stayton. Three children were born to this marriage: Col. Ed. M. Stayton, Christopher Stayton, and one child who died in infancy.

W. T. Helm resided with his mother and grandfather after his father's death for 11 years. She then married Thomas Stayton, with whom he lived four years. He then operated his grandfather's farm for two years. When Thomas Stayton died, W. T. Helm located on the Stayton home place, with his mother, in 1877. He purchased a farm, east of his present farm, in 1882. He sold his first place at the time of the great land boom, and in 1886, he purchased his present home place, upon which he has placed all of the existing improvements.

Mr. Helm was married in 1882, to Dora Hedges, who was born in Jackson County, a daughter of the late John A. Hedges and Serilda Hedges, the latter of whom is still living, at the age of 83 years, at Adams Station.

The children born to W. T. Helm and wife are: Homer, Bruce, Nina and James. Homer is farming in Jackson County, is married, and has two children, Vilma and Gladys. Bruce is farming on the home place, and is his father's mainstay. Nina is the wife of George Liddell, living on Spring

Branch road, and is the mother of four children, Ruth, Mary D., William and Nellie.

Mr. Helm is a Democrat, a member of the Presbyterian church, and is fraternally affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Lodge No. 76, of Independence.

**Ambrose C. Milton**, farmer and stockman, and member of one of the most prominent of the old families of Jackson County, was born near Lees Summit, July 22, 1872. He is a son of the late Benjamin Milton, a sketch of whom appears in this volume of Jackson County history in connection with that of R. F. Milton, brother of the subject of this review.

When four years of age Mr. Milton removed to Virginia with his parents, and remained in that State until 1884, when he returned to Jackson County, and engaged in farming. Coming of a family of hustler and energetic men who have, without an exception, made good in their native county, he has been a successful farmer. Mr. Milton is cultivating 110 acres of land, owned by J. H. Milton, his brother, and is owner of a tract of 15 acres adjoining.

In connection with his farming operations, Mr. Milton has done considerable construction work throughout Jackson County, in the employ of the county. He was married in 1911 to Miss Jessie Drummond, a native of Missouri, and a daughter of D. J. Drummond. Three children have blessed this marriage: Leroy Ambrose, Helen Virginia and James Franklin.

Mr. Milton is a Democrat and takes a good citizen's interest in civic and political matters. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Modern Woodmen of America.

**John L. Hilburn**, a prosperous and enterprising farmer and stockman, of Blue township, and owner of 110 acres of well improved land, upon which he has resided since 1901, is a native of Boone County, Missouri. He was born in 1855, and is a son of Elias and Sarah (Zumwalt) Hilburn, who were of Irish and German ancestry, respectively. Elias Hilburn was born and reared in Missouri, and died when his son, John L., was but a child.

Reared in Boone County, John L. Hilburn naturally followed the vocation of his forefathers, and became a tiller of the soil. He came to Jackson County in 1899, and during the first few years of his residence in this county, he rented a farm near Independence. He then came to his present place, and has placed practically all of the existing improvements on the farm. His residence and farm buildings are built upon the



solid rock on the ridge overlooking the valley of the Little Blue, and the natural beauty of the location lends itself to the attractiveness of the home surroundings. Mr. Hilburn has spent over \$5,000, improving his residence and buildings on "Rock Hill," the name of his place. In the spring of 1916 he erected a pretty, modern residence, valued at \$5,000, with all improvements and conveniences to make life comfortable. Here he and Mrs. Hilburn are living, while his son lives in the old home.

Mr. Hilburn was married in 1890 to Miss Pearl Short, who was born in Jackson County, but was reared in Indiana. Three children have blessed this marriage: Roscoe J., Lloyd Rufus and John David.

Roscoe J. Hilburn was born on Thursday, Nov. 30, 1893, was married on March 8, 1916, to Miss Hazel Seevers, and has two children, Roscoe, Jr. and Virginia Arvilla.

Lloyd Rufus and John David Hilburn are at home with their parents.

Mr. Hilburn is a Democrat. The family church is the Baptist. Mr. Hilburn is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Lodge No. 3, Independence.

Edward Conboy, Jr., farmer and stockman, Blue township, is a native son of Jackson County. His father was one of the best known of the old settlers of this county, and one of the most successful in his day. The elder Conboy began his career in Jackson County as a worker on the railroad, serving as construction foreman on the Missouri Pacific railroad for a number of years. Edward Conboy, Jr., was born Jan. 15, 1874, on the farm adjoining the home place, and is a son of the late Edward Conboy.

Edward Conboy, the elder, was born in Ireland, in 1832, and died in April, 1916, at his home in Jackson County. He was married in Ireland, to Johanna Howard, who was born in 1854, and died in February, 1912. The Conboys emigrated from their native land in 1868, came to America, and for the first three years resided in New York State. In 1872, Mr. Conboy came west and located at Little Blue, where he was employed on the Missouri Pacific Railroad as foreman of the construction and repair crew. He was industrious, economical and ambitious. Being a true son of the soil, it was his ambition to become a land owner, and he very soon invested his savings in a farm. A small farm did not content him, however, and he increased his acreage to a total of 400 acres, which is now owned by his heirs, and operated by his sons, Edward and John Conboy.

The children born to Edward Conboy and wife are: Edward, of this



review; John, residing on the home farm; Theodore L., a carpenter, living in Independence; Kate and Agnes, at home.

Politically, the late Edward Conboy was a Democrat, as are his sons. He and his family were all members of the Catholic church. He was liberal in his support of his church, public-spirited, progressive, took advantage of the opportunities which presented themselves to him, and made good in the land of his adoption. His sons, Edward, Jr., and John, are worthy sons of a good father.

**George B. Milton**, farmer and stockman, and owner of 80 acres of good farm land, in section 19, township 19, range 49, Blue township, was born in Weston, Mo., his parents having removed from Jackson County to Buchanan County because of Order No. 11 during the Civil War. Mr. Milton was born Aug. 18, 1864, and is a son of the late Benjamin Milton, a sketch of whom appears in this volume in connection with that of R. F. Milton. In 1876 the family went to Virginia, where George B. Milton remained until 1882. Upon his return, he first entered the employ of William Leary, at Buckner, Mo., for three months. He then engaged in railroading, and was in the employ of the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company until 1886. In that year he went to San Diego, Calif., and for two months was employed on a bee ranch. He again engaged in railroading, and was employed on the California Southern Railroad, with headquarters at National City, Calif. He was transferred to San Bernardino and thence to Barstow, where he was advanced to the post of hostler in the roundhouse, and for two years worked under Charles Daniels. His next promotion was to the post of switching engineer, a post which he held until the railroad worker's strike of 1894. In that year he returned to Jackson County, and farmed for one year. In 1895 he went to Leadville, Colo., and for the next six years he engaged in railroading. After his marriage, in 1901, he came back to Missouri, and after three months employment on the Great Western Railroad, he engaged in farming. Mr. Milton purchased his farm in 1903.

Aug. 21, 1901, at Leadville, Colo., Mr. Milton was married to Miss Ada McAllister, who was born at Port Jervis, N. Y., Sept. 25, 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Milton then took a honeymoon trip to Buffalo and eastern points. She is a daughter of John and Mary Elizabeth (Beck) McAllister, the latter a native of New York. John McAllister was born in Glasgow, Scotland. In 1870 he located at Suffolk, Va., where he operated a sawmill and a large farm for the next six years. In 1876 the family returned to Port Jervis, N. Y., and after the mother's death, the future Mrs. Milton went

to Leadville, Colo. All of the children of the family were married except a younger brother, Charles, who being in poor health, went to Leadville, secured a position, and then sent for his sister to keep house for him. Later, after the Miltons had come to Jackson County, Charles McAllister came to Kansas City and was employed in a Kansas City freight office until his death from typhoid fever in 1905. He died at Mrs. Milton's home. The McAllister children were: George, who died at Port Jervis, N. Y.; Mary Branch, deceased; Archibald, Denver, Colo.; Augustus, Newark, N. J.; John, the eldest of the family, died of typhoid fever; Howard McAllister became an engineer at the age of 19 years, and is now living at Port Jervis, N. Y., and a son, Dr. Lester McAllister, served with the National Army in France; Carolina, was the second child born in this family. John McAllister was born Sept. 26, 1822. Mary E. Beck McAllister was born Sept. 30, 1827.

The children born to George B. and Ada Milton are as follow: Charlotte, born in Leadville, Colo., May 20, 1902, is a senior in Independence High School; Howard, born Sept. 26, 1906, is in the seventh grade of Pleasant Grove school; Robert Franklin, born May 6, 1909, is in the fourth grade.

Mr. Milton is a Democrat, and is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Knights of Pythias. Mrs. Milton is a member of the Baptist church.

**George W. White.**—The late George W. White of the Blue Springs neighborhood, was a citizen of true worth, industrious, honest, and enterprising. He was born in Virginia, Jan. 28, 1860 and died July 11, 1893, while still a young man. He was a son of Benton and Martha (Scott) White the former of whom was wounded in battle during the Civil War in 1862 while serving with the Confederate forces. He died soon after receiving his wounds. The widow and five children four sons and a daughter came to Missouri in 1871 and made a settlement in Jackson County. These children are as follows: John White, a farmer, near Blue Springs; Louis, of Blue Springs, Mo.; George W., of this review; Mary White died at the age of 18 years; William was accidentally killed when 24 years old, by a falling tree, while cutting timber. Mrs. Martha White, mother of the foregoing children died on May 20, 1889.

Feb. 27, 1883, George W. White was united in marriage with Miss Sallie L. Stayton, a member of an old pioneer family. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. White settled on the old Stayton home place. This farm served as their home for four years, when they then sold it and on





REV. JAMES G. DALTON.



ARTHUR STAYTON.





Feb. 14, 1887, bought the present White home place near Blue Springs. The original home place consisted of 78 acres, to which in 1909, Mrs. White added 76 acres, making a total of 154 acres.

Since her husband's death Mrs. White has ably managed her farm, reared her family and even added to her possessions. Few women, confronted with the task of going ahead with the conduct of a farm, children to rear, and business details to look after, have done better than Mrs. White. The children born to George W. and Sallie White are as follows: Henry Clay and Hugh George; and Grover S., deceased. Henry Clay White was born Nov. 17, 1884 and resides on the other White farm. He is in the employ of Jackson County. He married Beulah Lowe and has one child, Ruth Duvall. Hugh George White was born July 1, 1890 and is operating a service truck for Jackson County. He served six months in the National army and was in training at Camp McArthur, Texas.

Mrs. Sallie L. (Stayton) White was born July 22, 1867, on the old Stayton home place. She is a daughter of Arthur (born Aug. 15, 1823, died Dec. 31, 1874) and Harriet Ann (Rule) Stayton. Arthur Stayton was first married to Delilah Wells, who died Sept. 20, 1846. He was a son of John Stayton, a native of Tennessee, who first went to Kentucky in 1828 and the following year came to Jackson County, Mo., thus becoming one of the first pioneers of this county. He was accompanied by his wife and ten children: Christopher; Rachel, later Mrs. Noland; Kate; Thomas; Arthur; Drusilla, who became Mrs. Saunders; Moses; Andrew; Samuel; and Martha, who became Mrs. Stout. John Stayton settled on the Kiger road and entered 700 acres of government land. He brought but two slaves with him. He built a small brick house of two rooms where he made his home during the remainder of his days. John A. Stayton and his family lived amid the most primitive conditions, but prospered as the years passed and members of this fine old family occupy prominent places in the civic and industrial life of Jackson County at this day. John Stayton and his wife Susan were of the sturdy pioneer type who left their imprint upon the early life of the county and left descendants who are honored members of society.

John Arthur Stayton was born July 8, 1795 and died Dec. 5, 1850. Mrs. Susan Landes Stayton was born July 8, 1798 and died Feb. 7, 1853. They were married Aug. 7, 1815.

Arthur Stayton was reared to young manhood amid pioneer surroundings and was first married to Delilah Wells, who bore him two children:

Drusilla, deceased; and Mrs. Eliza Montgomery of Blue Springs, Mo. In 1855, he was married to Harriet N. Rule, who was born in Ray County, Mo., in 1836 and died Jan. 18, 1916. She was a daughter of Rev. Thomas Rule, a primitive Baptist minister of Kentucky, who came from Ray County, to Jackson in 1836 and was prominently identified with the affairs of this county in the early pioneer days. Tradition says that he assisted in laying off the town plat of Kansas City with a grapevine which served in lieu of a surveyor's chain. The children born to Arthur and Harriet Stayton were as follows: Clarissa, died at the age of 18 years; Thomas resides near Lees Summit; Arthur died at the age of 18 years; Mrs. Susan Martha Johnson, a widow near Blue Springs; Mrs. Sallie Lee White, of this review; Christopher Landes, near Blue Springs; David Clayton, a farmer living west of Blue Springs.

After his marriage, Arthur Stayton made his home in a log cabin on 40 acres of the old Stayton homestead. His first home was a brick house of two rooms which he built in 1862, to which he added a large addition in 1870. When Order No. 11 was issued during the war between the states he took his slaves and went to Texas where he left them. Mrs. Stayton bought a team of oxen and went with Landes Stayton to Audrain County, meeting her husband at Lexington when he was on his way to Texas. Arthur Stayton increased his holdings to 240 acres and prospered during the long years of his life. He was a Democrat and was liberal in his donations to the cause of religion.

The White home place is one of the pretty and attractive farmsteads in Jackson County. Mrs. White is deserving of much praise and credit for the able manner in which she has managed her affairs during the past 25 and more years. She is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church.

The White home place near Blue Springs is historic ground because of the fact that it was an old time camping ground of travelers and early settlers who were coming into the country. The original Blue Springs from which the town took its name are located on the place.

Mrs. White has an interesting relic in the way of a genuine old time walnut chest, hand made, in a remarkable state of preservation, brought by her grandparents from Tennessee and made in 1830. This chest formerly had a false bottom in a small drawer or box in one end which served as a hiding place for valuables and money. It was carried away by her parents when Order No. 11 was issued and brought back.



**Rev. James Grigsby Dalton**, late pastor of the Little Blue and Pleasant Prairie Cumberland Presbyterian churches, was born in Greenbrier County, Va., June 7, 1824 and died at his country home in Sniabar township, April 9, 1910. When he was 15 years old he came with his parents, Richard and Mary (Renick) Dalton to Missouri. His father was a native of Albemarle County, Va., and the mother of Rockingham County. They made the journey to Missouri by wagon taking two months on the road, arriving at Lexington. Richard Dalton walked the entire distance from Virginia to Missouri. The father purchased 200 acres of unimproved land in Johnson County. He developed his farm and died in 1842 at the age of 72 years. At his death he left a family of five sons and three daughters. His wife died in 1857.

J. G. Dalton remained at home until he had attained his majority and then began teaching school. In 1847 he became a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and began to preach, delivering his first sermon in Shiloh church in Johnson County, on the first Sunday in May, 1848. He united with the Presbytery Oct. 1, 1847 and was licensed to preach in the same month. He was ordained April 1, 1852 by the Lexington Presbytery near Dover, Lafayette County. He spent five years in the circuit work in Johnson, Henry, St. Clair and Lafayette Counties, with 28 appointments. The territory being thinly settled, he preached almost entirely in private homes and occasionally in a school house or court house. During the summer, from July to October, he was engaged in camp meeting work and at each meeting had from 25 to 100 conversions. At a meeting held in Johnson County, after an exhortation by Uncle Jake Crow, over 100 penitents came forward. Uncle Jake established the Little Blue or the Lobb church, three miles north of Blue Springs. In 1842 a great religious revival took place resulting in the establishment of a number of churches. In 1854 Mr. Dalton took charge of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, the Little Blue or the "Lobb" church, as it is now known. The same year the congregation erected a frame house of worship. After the Civil War he served as pastor of the Pleasant Prairie church, formerly the Bone Hill church. He was the regular pastor of the Little Blue church for over 50 years, of Pleasant Prairie church for 40 years and for 15 years was pastor of the Chapel Hill church. He organized the Cumberland Presbyterian church at Blue Springs and had charge of it for two years.

Rev. Mr. Dalton was married Nov. 30, 1865 to Miss Lucy Jane Crump of Jackson County, born Nov. 10, 1842, a daughter of Samuel and Paulina (Cox) Crump, the former a native of Boyle County, Ky. and the latter of

Estill County. They came to Jackson County from Kentucky. See sketch of John T. Crump. Mrs. Dalton was a school pupil of Mr. Dalton's. The children of Rev. James G. and Lucy J. Dalton, are: Samuel G., born June 12, 1867, on the home place on which Mr. Dalton located in 1871; Mary Elizabeth, formerly a teacher at home; and Paulina Agnes, wife of Luther W. Tyer, and mother of one child, Dalton Tyer, who lives on the adjoining farm. Miss Mary Dalton was educated in Odessa College and taught in the public schools for 24 years. Samuel Crump, father of Mrs. Dalton, was a justice of the peace, and operated a mill on Sni creek, for some years prior to his death.

-- Reverend Dalton accomplished a vast amount of good during his many years of preaching. He was thoroughly imbued with the desire to faithfully perform the work of the Lord and had few thoughts outside of his work as a minister. During his leisure time he cultivated his farm of 40 acres and was universally respected and loved throughout the countryside by all people regardless of denomination. When the merger of the Cumberland Presbyterian churches took place with the United Presbyterian church, Mr. Dalton remained with his church for which he had toiled for over 62 years. His wife joined the church after her marriage with Mr. Dalton and she, too, has ever remained true to the Cumberland Presbyterians. While a man of the Lord and devoted to the Savior's work, he had strong sense of humor which enabled him to overcome many difficulties during his long and arduous career.

Reverend Dalton married more couples, in all probability, than any other pioneer preacher in Jackson County. In many instances throughout the county there are families which boast that he performed the marriage ceremony of two or three generations of the same family.

**Morgan V. Dillingham.**—The Dillinghams are among the oldest and most prominent of the pioneer families of Jackson County. For over 80 years this family has been well known in this section of Missouri, and the descendants of the first Dillingham to settle in this county have occupied leading places in the community. Morgan V. Dillingham, successful breeder and large land owner of Blue Springs, is one of the best known men in this section of the Middle West. For over 40 years he has been a breeder of jacks, and his fine farm, near Blue Springs, is widely known as the Dillingham Jack Farm. He has bred and sold a pure strain of jacks and has sold the product of his farm to buyers in all parts of the United States. Of late years it has been practically unnecessary for him to advertise the fact that he is a breeder, on account of the wide range of



his prestige. Buyers come to the farm from all parts of the United States or write to him for a shipment. The Dillingham herd of jacks and jennets numbers from 25 to 30 head, generally. The herd leader was purchased of J. Finley, of Higginsville, for \$2,000, and was bred in eastern Kentucky by Dr. Shields.

Morgan Veachel Dillingham was born Sept. 18, 1843, on a farm near Blue Springs, Mo. He is a son of Joshua and Susan J. (Walker) Dillingham, the former a native of Kentucky.

Joshua Dillingham, the father, was born on March 29, 1816, and died Dec. 16, 1875. He was reared to young manhood in Kentucky, and in about 1835 he came to Missouri, and was here married, Aug. 25, 1842, to Susan J. Walker, who was born Sept. 18, 1826, and departed this life June 26, 1911. She was a daughter of Morgan Walker, one of the first pioneers of Jackson County, who assisted in the building of the first court house of Jackson County, which was built of logs in 1827. He became a large land owner, obtaining possession of 2,200 acres, and was one of the leading citizens of the pioneer country in his day. Joshua Dillingham first located in Lafayette County, prior to coming to Jackson County. He accumulated a considerable tract of land adjoining Blue Springs, and here reared his family.

Morgan V. Dillingham was reared in Jackson County, and received such education as was afforded by the primitive schools of his youth. He became engaged in mercantile pursuits, and for 22 years he was in partnership with Thomas W. Records at Blue Springs. This store is still conducted by Mr. Dillingham's son. He has accumulated a splendid farm of 180 acres, adjoining Blue Springs on the south and east, and is vice-president of the Bank of Blue Springs. As far back as 1879, he became interested in breeding jacks, and has achieved considerable success in this important branch of animal husbandry. While engaged in merchandising, he carried on his farming operations. Mr. Dillingham has one of the handsomest stone residences in Jackson County, in Blue Springs.

Mr. Dillingham was married in 1869 to Miss Malvina Eliza Mock, who has borne him children as follows: Georgia M., David M., Nellie May, Jessie Gertrude, Virginia Leala, Edgar and Edna, twins, and Frank Marie. Georgia M. Dillingham was born Nov. 1, 1869, married Charles Cable, and died Jan. 14, 1901. David M. was born June 7, 1872, married Mary Estella Spicer, June 23, 1898, and is a member of the Blue Springs Mercantile Company. Nellie May was born June 5, 1874, and was married in July, 1893, to William P. Records, resides at Lawton, Okla. Edgar and



Edna were born Sept. 18, 1886. Edgar died Sept. 28, 1886, and Edna died Nov. 5, 1886. Frank Marie Dillingham was born May 31, 1891, and died April 28, 1900.

The mother of the foregoing children was born Feb. 13, 1850, in Jackson County, Missouri, and was a daughter of Dr. David and Sarah E. (Ellington) Mock, the former a native of North Carolina, and the latter of Ohio. Dr. David Mock was a physician, who came from Ohio to Missouri in the late forties. He first lived in Lafayette and Platte counties. With his wife he essayed to cross the plains en route to the gold fields of California, during the years of the great migration to the Pacific coast. He reached Denver, but the hardships of the journey proved too much for his wife's frail health, and they returned to Missouri. After the close of the Civil War, he was among the first men to locate in Jackson County, where he practiced his profession for many years.

Mr. Dillingham is a stanch Democrat of the old school. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and is highly esteemed and one of the respected citizens of Jackson County.

**John T. Ware**, well known citizen of Blue Springs, Mo., is a native son of Jackson County. Mr. Ware was born on a farm near Independence, April 8, 1869, and the half century of his life has been spent within the confines of his native county. He is the son of John and Belle (Daniel) Ware, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Richmond, Va. John Ware, his father, was born May 22, 1822, and died Aug. 11, 1901. Mrs. Belle Ware was born Dec. 22, 1826, and departed this life April 14, 1893. John Ware came to Jackson County before the Civil War, and followed farming continuously in this county until compelled by Order No. 11 to leave the country. He thereupon went to Kentucky and remained until the war closed. After which he returned to Jackson County and settled on a farm near Independence, where he resided until he moved to a place south of Blue Springs.

Ten children were born to John and Belle Ware, as follow: Fannie, deceased; John, deceased; Robert, Independence, Mo.; Christopher, deceased; William M., Webster County, Missouri; Mrs. Annie Cook, Rock Island, Texas; Mrs. Sue Cummins, Grain Valley, Mo.; Mrs. Annie Daniel, Blue Springs, Mo.; John T., of this review; Frank, employed in the Sugar Creek Oil Refinery, Kansas City, Mo.

John T. Ware has always followed farming, and is now managing the Prewitt farm of 309 acres, southeast of Blue Springs. He was married Sept. 16, 1896, to Miss Mary Elizabeth Prewitt, who has borne him

two children: Georgia Frances, born July 18, 1900, a student in Missouri Valley College; Forrest Anselm, born Oct. 10, 1902. The mother of the foregoing children was born in Jackson County, March 12, 1876, and is the only child of the late George W. and Fannie (Lobb) Prewitt.

George W. Prewitt was born near the town of Blue Springs, Mo., Dec. 16, 1836, and departed this life July 26, 1917. He was a son of Benjamin Wesley Prewitt, a native of Kentucky, and son of Joseph Prewitt. Benjamin W. Prewitt came to Missouri in 1833, and was engaged in mercantile pursuits at Liberty, Clay County, for three years prior to his removal to Jackson County. He was married in 1835 to Mary Ann Fisher, youngest daughter of Adam Fisher, who settled on a farm four miles east of Independence, where he resided until his death, in 1860. After his marriage Benjamin Prewitt settled on a farm four miles east of Independence, where he entered land and became the owner of 600 acres. He lived there until the stirring days of 1849, when he started to the gold fields of California. Like thousands of others who tried to make the long trail across the deserts and mountains of the West, he succumbed to illness, and died on the way. He left two sons, George and Fisher Prewitt. His widow later married R. S. Duke, of Jackson County. During the Civil War, they removed to Clay County, where she died in 1876. Mr. Duke spent his last days in California.

George W. Prewitt was reared in the home of his uncle, George Fisher, until 1855. He then returned to the old homestead and engaged in farming until 1861. Upon the outbreak of the Civil War, he entered the State service and fought at the Battle of Lexington, under Colonel Raines. His company disbanded at Osceola in the following winter. He remained on his farm until April, 1863, when he went to Colorado, and remained there until November, 1865. During the two years in the West he spent the time in Colorado and New Mexico, engaged in the cattle business, his associate being Solomon Young, of Jackson County, who had a contract to supply the United States Government with cattle for the various forts in the West. Mr. Prewitt lived in Clay County, Missouri, from November, 1865, to the spring of 1866, when he returned to Jackson County. He at once began the work of reclaiming his farm. The farm which George Prewitt improved, just southeast of Blue Springs, is one of the model farms of the State of Missouri, well improved with a splendid residence, outbuildings, and is highly productive.

April 20, 1871, Mr. Prewitt was married to Miss Fannie E. Lobb, daughter of Manson Lobb, a son of pioneers from Kentucky. She died in



1878, leaving a daughter, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Ware, of this review. Mrs. Ware studied at Woodlawn College, Independence, and kept house for her father until his death.

George Prewitt was a man universally respected by all who knew him, and he was one of the sturdy and upright citizens of Jackson County. During the later years of his life he embraced the Christian faith, according to the tenets of the Presbyterian church. He was a Democrat and took considerable interest in the affairs of his party. He was a member of Blue Springs Lodge, No. 163, Knights of Pythias.

Mr. and Mrs. John T. Ware are highly regarded in their home community, and have a host of friends in Jackson County. They are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Ware is a Democrat, and is affiliated with the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. Their handsome home in Blue Springs is noted for its hospitality.

**John W. Moore.**—Nearly 70 years ago, John W. Moore, pioneer farmer of Blue township, first saw the light of day in Jackson County. His recollections of early life in Jackson County are keen and vivid. His schooling was obtained in one of the old time subscription schools where the tuition was five cents per day per pupil and the teacher earned about one dollar a day for his services. Mr. Moore recalls that the teaching of the common branches was thoroughly done in those days by the teachers and that when a boy received a trouncing for not getting his lessons or misbehaving his father gave him another one at home. He had to walk four miles to school and he recalls that there were no public schools in Jackson County until 1868. Geography, mathematics, reading, writing and grammar were the only branches taught and these were thoroughly taught. The teacher would give the pupils their lessons for the next day at the close of the day's session and woe betide the unfortunate who failed to come to class letter perfect on the following day. If the lesson was not learned at night a "whaling" was the outcome on the following day. During his boyhood days, hunting was fine; Jackson County was a hunter's paradise. During the Civil War when firearms were prohibited and it was dangerous for a citizen to be caught with a gun unless he were a soldier, game multiplied. After peace came, the woods, rivers and ponds abounded in wild geese, ducks, brants, prairie chickens, grouse, foxes, wolves and coons.

Mr. Moore saw the first street car on the streets of Kansas City. It was hauled by mules and was run on the old Westport line. Kansas City was but a village during his boyhood days and he has seen the wonderful transformation which has taken place in this section of Missouri. He





JOHN W. MOORE.



saw the great overland freighting outfits which passed over the old Santa Fe trail to the then unknown southwest and has witnessed many marvelous things during the course of his long life. However, Mr. Moore is not wont to lament at the passing of the so-called "good old times." He is of the opinion that the advantages of today are far greater than formerly and life is more worth living. He recalls the time when the present location of the great stock yards was a dense wilderness and he watched with interest the development of the packing industry upon the coming of the railroads in 1868 and by 1870 there were 20 roads in the bottoms.

Mr. Moore is owner of a splendid farm of 144.5 acres situated on the rock road four miles southeast of Independence upon which he has resided since February, 1872 and upon which he has placed all of the improvements. He was born July 8, 1850, on a farm four miles northeast of Independence and is a son of John and Isabella (Gardner) Moore, natives of Virginia and Kentucky, respectively. John Moore was born in July, 1810 and died Oct. 9, 1865. Mrs. Isabella Moore was born near Louisville, Ky., in August, 1809 and died in August, 1887. They were parents of the following children: Elisha, who served in the Confederate army under General Price, is deceased; Elizabeth, deceased wife of Calvin Lowe; Richard, killed in a runaway at the age of 35 years; George W. Moore residing with the Gibsons in Jackson County; Sarah died at the age of 16 years; John W. Moore, of this review.

John Moore, the elder, was a son of Elisha Moore a Kentucky pioneer. He came to Jackson County in 1830 and purchased land of the Collins northeast of Independence. He erected a double log cabin in which he made his home for many years and became owner of 223 acres of land, 120 acres of which was located near Grain Valley. Mr. Moore was owner of 14 slaves who were set free on Emancipation Day, Aug. 4, 1865.

When Mr. Moore purchased his present farm in 1872 he traded an 80 acre tract and gave \$40 in addition. This land is now easily worth \$300 an acre. During his entire life he has worked hard and been economical and striven to manage his business in the best manner. Mr. Moore was married on Oct. 5, 1872 to Miss Sarah Cook who was born in 1850 and died Jan. 15, 1890. She was a daughter of Enoch and Nancy Cook, pioneer residents of Jackson County. To this marriage were born children as follows: Walter, Independence, Mo.; John B. father of three children, lives in Kansas City, Kan.; Howard, at home with his father; Homer lives in Independence; Mrs. Ida B. Aid, mother of three children, at home; Shelby lives in Independence; Everett resides in Kansas City, Kan.; Wallace lives in Oak Grove and has four children.



Mr. Moore is a Democrat and he has served four years as school director of his district. The Moore family have always worshipped according to the teachings of the Christian faith. Mr. Moore himself has generally followed the "Golden Rule" as his creed during his long life. He is well informed, keen and mentally alert and physically active, notwithstanding his age and he takes a decided interest in present day events. Always a reader, he is above the ordinary in understanding and intelligence.

**John L. George**, proprietor of 76 acres of rich bottom and hill land fronting on the rock road east of Independence, is one of Jackson County's industrious and enterprising citizens. The George place presents an attractive and pleasing appearance from the highway. The large lawn, fronted by a stone fence, adds much to the stable appearance of the well built residence, and the general showing made by the farmstead. Mr. George was born in Clay County, Missouri, July 3, 1874. He is a son of William and Sallie (Clark) George, both natives of Kentucky.

William George, his father, was a son of Wash George, a native of Wales. As early as 1858 the George family settled on the Spring Branch road in Jackson County, later removing to Clay County, where the family resided until 1882. In that year they removed to Bates County, Missouri, where the parents still reside. The elder George is past 70 years of age, and the mother is past 69. They are now living retired in Rich Mill, Mo. It is a matter of local history that an uncle of John L. George, named James Clark, operated the Blue Mills ferry in ante bellum days.

John L. George came to Jackson County in 1904, and was employed in a retail business in Independence for four years prior to locating on the farm. He was married Sept. 2, 1906, to Miss Mary Allen, a daughter of James and Mattie (Saunders) Allen. Mrs. George was born in Jackson County, Missouri, Dec. 8, 1885, and was reared in this county. Her father, James Allen, was born in Saline County, Missouri, Oct. 23, 1857, and was the son of James Allen, a native of Kentucky, and a pioneer settler of Saline County. The wife of James Allen, the elder, was a Miss Staples, a member of an old and prominent family of Saline County. Mattie (Saunders) Allen, mother of Mrs. George, died in 1887. She was a daughter of Samuel Saunders, a pioneer of Jackson County, who entered a large tract of land in this county. His land extended from the Latimer place to the Glendale road, and he was quite prominently identified with the early development of Jackson County. Samuel Saunders gave to his daughter, Mrs. Mattie Allen, the farm now owned by Mr. and Mrs. George. The Allens came to Jackson County in 1881, and Mr. Allen made his home

on this farm until 1908, when he removed to Kansas City. In 1892 James Allen and Miss Josie Kennedy were united in marriage. Four children have been born to this marriage: Anna, Joseph, James and John. Mrs. John L. George had one sister, Mrs. Katherine Cook, who died three years after her marriage, Jan. 31, 1910.

Mr. George is not only a successful farmer, but he is a skilled artisan. He finds time to do many useful things and to exercise his skill in fashioning articles of furniture with which to adorn the George home. When winter storms prevent work on the farm, he will be found in his work shop making some articles of furniture which, in its completeness and finish as fashioned from the native lumber, will equal in stability and appearance the best which the shops afford.

Mr. George is a Democrat. Mrs. George is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Both are intelligent, well read, progressive and enterprising, and are numbered among the best of Jackson County's citizens.

**Admiral N. Boswick**, farmer and stockman, owner of a fine farm of 84 acres in Sniabar township, has been cultivating his farm since 1882, with the exception of four years spent in the service of Jackson County as deputy sheriff. He was born in Washington County, Ohio, March 16, 1854, and is a son of Admiral N. Bostwick.

The Bostwicks are among the old American families, the paternal great-grandfather of the subject of this review having fought under General Washington in the American Revolution. The progenitor of Admiral N. Bostwick came from England and settled in New England in the colonial times. His father was born in 1800, and died in 1876. His mother, Mary Jane Moon Bostwick, was born near Parkersburg, W. Va., in 1817, and departed this life in 1905. The Bostwicks came to Missouri in 1858, and first settled near Kahoka, Sweet Home township, Clark County. The children born to this couple were as follow: Henry S., deceased, was a soldier in the Union Army, enlisted when 16 years of age, fought at Vicksburg, and was with Sherman in his March to the Sea, as a member of the 21st Missouri Infantry; John L., a veteran of the Union Army, resides in Oklahoma, ran away from home to join the army, and enlisted when 14 years old; Robert J., lives in Boone County, Iowa; Admiral N., of this review; Mrs. Ann Kronen, deceased; Mrs. Susan Lucas, lives in Clark County, Missouri; Lydia, deceased.

A. N. Bostwick came to Jackson County in August, 1877, and has since been engaged in farming in this county. He has achieved more



than a local prominence, and is well and favorably known throughout the county. He was married Oct. 5, 1879, to Miss Lucy A. Johnson, who was born in Jackson County in 1861, and is a daughter of the late David Johnson, one of the early pioneers of this county, who became owner of 900 acres of land in Missouri, owning besides 640 acres in Texas. David Johnson died in 1863. His wife was Frances (Cook) Johnson, who died in 1884. David Johnson was the father of 16 children: William, deceased; Larkin, deceased, a sketch of whom appears in this volume; Carroll, west of Oakland Church, Johnson County, Missouri; Harvey, Grain Valley, Mo.; Lee, Oak Grove, Mo.; Thomas and Mary, twins, deceased; Luther O., a wealthy farmer and orchardist of Sniabar township; Banner, Kansas City, Mo.; Sarah, deceased; Mrs. Augusta Hinkston, Independence.

The children born to A. N. and Lucy A. Bostwick are: Herbert L., policeman, Kansas City, Mo.; Claude L., engaged in business on East Maple street, Independence; Robert Ward, died at the age of four years and two died in infancy.

Mr. Bostwick is a Republican and is one of the leaders of his party in Jackson County. He served as deputy sheriff under sheriff Baldwin, from 1905 to 1909 and during that time made his home in Independence. He is also a member of the County Election Board.

Mr. Bostwick is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is affiliated with the Odd Fellows Lodge of Buckner. He is well informed, progressive and is one of the substantial and well respected citizens of his home county.

**Judge J. H. Cummings**, police judge, of Tempe, Ariz., was born and reared to manhood in Jackson County, a member of one of the old pioneer families of this county, and has never, although his home is in a faraway State, lost his love for Jackson County and his old friends and neighbors. Each year he looks forward to his annual visit to his old home county, and spends several weeks hobnobbing and visiting with his old time friends in the county. J. H. Cummings was born Sept. 8, 1845, on a farm within four miles of Blue Springs. He is a son of John N. and Eleanor (Barnett) Cummings, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Boone County, Missouri. John N. Cummings was born in Simpson County, Kentucky, in 1806, and died in 1871. He came to Jackson County in 1828, and was one of the first pioneer settlers of this county. He settled first on the Blue River, and lived there for four years, filing on his homestead in 1832, improved his land and there reared his family



of nine children. The children are as follow: J. H. Cummings, of this review; John Gilpin, drowned in the Missouri River; Whitford Townsend, died in 1917; William Thornton, lives at Raton, N. M.; Keziah Ann, died at the age of 18 years; Joseph Cox, deceased. Eleanor Barnett Cummings, mother of the foregoing children, died in 1883. By a first marriage with William Palette, she was the mother of two children: James and Mary Jane Palette, both of whom are deceased. John N. Cummings was also twice married, his first wife having been Eliza Wood, who bore him two children: George W. and Serilda Cummings.

J. H. Cummings, of this review, made his home on a farm after his marriage in 1867, followed farming and also carried on contracting and building operations throughout the county. The old Cummings farm, which Judge Cummings owned, and where he made his home, is now owned by J. S. Campbell. In the yard of this home is an immense Cottonwood tree, planted by Judge Cummings many years ago. This tree has grown to large proportions. The trunk itself is 11 feet in circumference, and the spread of branches by actual measurement will exceed 90 feet from one side of the tree to the other. In 1877 Mr. Cummings made his first trip to Arizona, where his wife died. In 1880 he returned to Blue Springs, and remained in Jackson County until 1896, when he again went to Arizona, and has since made his home at Tempe. He followed building and contracting until his retirement, in 1916. In that year he was elected justice of the peace and police judge of Tempe, a position which he is now filling with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the people of the city.

Judge Cummings has been twice married. His first marriage occurred Oct. 18, 1867, with Miss Mattie E. St. Clair, a native of Jackson County, who died in July, 1878, leaving three children: David Capelle, deceased; George B., a farmer in Jackson County; and William, deceased. His second marriage took place in 1882, with Eliza Casey, who was born in Kentucky, and who was reared in Jackson County. Seven children were born to this marriage: William, Bizbee, Ariz.; Mrs. Mary E. Thornsbury, Tucson, Ariz.; Mrs. Sallie E. Goorich, a widow, in the employ of the Federal employment office; Mrs. Maude B. Ritter, died in 1916; Lucy M., a teacher in the grammar school at Phoenix, Ariz., for the past years; Hugh C., Tempe, Ariz.; June, a clerk in the Tempe postoffice.

Mr. Cummings is a stanch Democrat. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.

**Moses T. Rowe.**—In recording the biographies of Jackson County men whose works stand out prominently on the pages of history, the historian can rightly lay stress upon the deeds and accomplishments of the late Moses T. Rowe, of Sniabar township. In several things Mr. Rowe was a pioneer in this county. He planted and cared for one of the first commercial orchards in the county, and was the pioneer bee man of the eastern part of the county. He was an active and influential citizen in many ways. Mr. Rowe was born near Washington C. H., Fayette County, Ohio, June 3, 1841, and departed this life May 13, 1914. He was a son of Jesse Rowe, of Ohio, who married a Miss Morris. She was descended from the Revolutionary family of Morrises, of whom Robert Morris, who financed the Colonies in the struggle for independence, at a most critical time, was a member.

Jesse Rowe, father of Moses T. Rowe, came to Missouri at the close of the Civil War, and purchased a section of land, which was eventually divided among his children. He had a family of 11 children, nearly all of whom came to Jackson County, and settled in the vicinity of the old Rowe homestead, northwest of Grain Valley. Four sons of Jesse Rowe served in Ohio regiments during the Civil War.

Moses T. and William E. Rowe, his brother, enlisted as members of a military band in Company C, 73rd Ohio regiment, in 1861. When his time expired, in 1863, he re-enlisted and served until the close of the war. His command served in the second battle of Bull Run, the great Battle of Gettysburg, the Battle of Lookout Mountain, and was with Sherman on his March to the Sea. From Raleigh, N. C., they went to Washington, and participated in the Grand Review. At Washington his band won the prize for playing before the President's residence.

In 1868 Mr. Rowe came to Missouri, and settled upon his farm of 170 acres, which he developed and improved with one of the best residences in the county. He set out a pear and apple orchard, and was fond of caring for fruits. The Rowe pear orchard consists of seven acres. He established the first apiary in his neighborhood, and was known as the "Bee Man" of eastern Jackson County. He earned quite an income by selling stained honey for eight and one-third and comb honey at 12½ cents a pound.

Mr. Rowe was married March 3, 1873, to Miss Caroline Woodruff, who was born Jan. 21, 1839, at Dimmock, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, and was educated in the Wyoming Seminary of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1861. In 1868 she went to Nebraska, where she remained one



year, then went to Kansas, engaged in teaching in both states prior to coming to Independence, Mo., where she was employed as teacher in the Ott High School. She is a daughter of Lewis Harlow and Alameda (Hutchinson) Woodruff, both of whom were members of old New England families. Lewis Woodruff was a merchant and a prominent business man. Mrs. Rowe is a cousin of former Governor Woodruff of Connecticut.

The children born to Moses T. and Caroline Rowe are: George Clarence, Moses Trueman and Dora May.

George Clarence Rowe was born in July, 1877. He graduated from Manual Training High School in Kansas City, in 1898, and soon afterward enlisted in the United States Army for service in the Spanish American War, and served in Cuba. Mr. Rowe is an electrical engineer, and is now located in Havana, Cuba. He married Anna Uller, and has two children, Carlos and Herman.

Moses Trueman was born in December, 1878, and was graduated from Manual Training High School in 1899, after which he studied at Missouri University, and was connected with the Sweeney Electrical Company, of Kansas City. He married Elizabeth Stevenson, of Liberty, Mo., and has three children, Cuba Elizabeth, Frank Trueman, Jr., and Jewel May. He is now in the automobile business at Hot Springs, Ark. He spent a number of years in Cuba.

Mrs. Dora (Rowe) Pratt graduated from the Manual Training High School in 1900, and studied in the East, where she graduated from the Emerson College of Oratory at Boston, Mass. For some years she was a teacher of elocution and oratory, serving as dean of the department of oratory at Highland Park Seminary. She was married in Jackson County in 1913 to William J. Pratt, a former business man of Mackinac, Mich. Mr. Pratt is now in charge of the Rowe farm, and is making a success. He purchased and placed in use one of the first farm tractors in his neighborhood. Prior to locating in Jackson County, Mr. Pratt was a merchant on Mackinac Island for 15 years.

Mrs. Rowe has always been prominent in educational work, and still takes a keen interest in every day affairs, despite her age. Her home is the social gathering place of the neighborhood, and the people of the countryside respect and admire her for her many excellent qualities. The late Mr. Rowe was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and was active and influential in all civic matters which were intended to advance the interests of his home community. He was kind and neigh-



borly, and was always ready to lend a helping hand to assist a friend or neighbor. He always greeted a caller with, "What can I do for you?" and not thinking of what the other might do for him. He will always be kindly remembered as a gentleman of the old school, a good citizen, one of the builders of Jackson County, and a man worth while.

For a number of years Mr. and Mrs. Rowe conducted "Singing School" in their neighborhood, in the days when "Singing Schools" were popular in the country. Both were accomplished vocal music teachers. Many people of middle age in Jackson County recall the popularity of the "Singing Schools" taught by Mr. and Mrs. Rowe. Each taught prior to their marriage, and afterwards united their schools.

**Andrew Jackson Powell** who died at his country home on the Spring Branch road in Blue township April 1, 1909, was a man of industry and enterprise who stood high in the community where he had resided over 44 years and built up a splendid farm. He was born July 3, 1836 in Franklin County, Ohio, a son of Jacob Powell, a native of Pennsylvania. During the Civil War he served in the Home Guards of his native state and resided in Franklin County until 1865 when he removed to Jackson County, Mo. Mr. Powell invested his capital in land which had been allowed to grow up in brush during the Civil War and was run down as to improvements, fencing, etc. He had practically to improve his farm from a wilderness. Mr. and Mrs. Powell's first home was a small frame house which was built upon 200 acres of land which Mr. Powell and his father purchased in common. Through the years that have passed the Powell homestead has been improved and is now one of the pretty places along the road. The farm embraces 107 acres of valuable farm land, 15 acres of which is devoted to orchards which were planted by Mr. Powell.

Feb. 12, 1861, Andrew J. Powell was united in marriage with Miss Phoebe L. Johnson, who was born Feb. 11, 1839, in Delaware, Ohio, and is a daughter of Zachariah and Minerva (Hill) Powell, natives of Pennsylvania, the latter of whom was partly reared in Canada and New Jersey. Zachariah Powell was a shoemaker and merchant who plied his trade in a day when shoes were made by hand. Mrs. Powell was reared to womanhood in Delaware. Five children were born to this marriage, four of whom are living: Clement Johnson, lives just across the road, married Mary Latimer and has four children, Wilson, Russell L., Vanetta and Mary Virginia; Charles Wilson lives in Los Angeles, Cal., married Josephine Virginia Lyons; Cora Belle is the wife of Joseph M. Barber, wholesale druggist of Kansas City, Mo.; Samuel C., lives in Beaumont, Texas, mar-



ANDREW J. POWELL.





ried Carrie Hoffner; Frank Evans died at the age of 27 years, leaving a widow and two children, Cora Belle and Frankie.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, South is the house of worship of the Powell family. Mr. Powell, during his whole life, was a prohibitionist.

**Luther J. Slaughter.**—The past 25 years have demonstrated the fact that Jackson County is adapted to fruit growing—especially the growing of apples and pears. The orchard owned and operated by L. J. Slaughter of Sniabar township is one of the finest in this section of Missouri and consists of 90 acres, 40 acres of which were planted 24 years ago, and 50 acres of which is now 14 years old. The apple crop this year (1919) will exceed ten thousand bushels. Mr. Slaughter has sold this immense crop on the trees for \$7,500. This is ample evidence that Jackson County land is not too valuable to devote to orchards. The average price received from the crop per acre will exceed \$850. Mr. Slaughter is owner of 166 acres of land and carries on general farming in addition to caring for his large orchard.

Luther Josiah Slaughter was born April 21, 1870, in a log cabin on the farm which he now owns. He is a son of John Slaughter, who was born in Jackson County in 1830 and died in 1875. John Slaughter was a son of Josiah Slaughter, a Virginian, who was among the first of the pioneers to clear a farm from the wilderness of Jackson County in the days of long ago.

John Slaughter was reared to young manhood on the place which his father had entered and settled. When a young man he was filled with the spirit of adventure and crossed the great plains to the Pacific coast, where he remained for several years and engaged in cattle raising. After the close of the Civil War, he returned to Jackson County and purchased his farm from his father. He married Mary Jane Bowman, a member of a Jackson County pioneer family, who was born in 1840, and died in 1907. The children born to this union are: Luther J., of this review, the only living child of his parents; James and Agnes, deceased.

Luther J. Slaughter was educated in Round Grove School and Odessa College. He set out every tree in his fine orchard and has cared for it through the years in which the trees attained maturity and commenced bearing fruit. He still keeps up the routine of spraying and looking after the trees so that the maximum crop will be produced each year. He was married in 1894 to Miss Sallie Anderson Kirby, who was born in Jackson County, a daughter of William R. and Susan (Capelle) Kirby, both deceased. The late Mrs. Kirby was a sister of John O. Capelle, former

county treasurer, a sketch of whom appears in this volume. The children born to Luther J. and Sallie A. Slaughter as follows: Nellie G., Alma Marie and Hazel Grace.

Nellie G. Slaughter attended Round Grove School, Blue Springs public school, graduated from the Independence High School, studied in the Lexington Young Ladies Seminary, and is a graduate of the State University at Columbia, Mo.

Alma Marie Slaughter studied at Independence High School and graduated from Grain Valley High School.

Hazel Grace Slaughter is in first year high school at Grain Valley.

The Democratic party has always had the support of Mr. Slaughter. He was reared in the faith of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, but attends the Methodist Episcopal Church of which Mrs. Slaughter is a member. Mr. Slaughter is one of the wide-awake, progressive and enterprising citizens of the present advanced era and has done much to assist in bringing Jackson County to the front as a great agricultural and fruit growing center.

William E. Luttrell, president and manager of the Blue Springs Lumber and Milling Company, established in 1917, is a native of Jackson County. The Blue Springs Lumber and Milling Company is the successor of one of the old established business concerns of Blue Springs, and was founded by the late Judge S. L. Luttrell. The concern was incorporated in 1917, with W. E. Luttrell, president; W. I. Thomason, treasurer, and Guy Quinn, secretary. The mills have a capacity of 50 barrels of flour per day, the output being sold under the widely known name of "Model Flour". The lumber yards are among the most complete and best stocked in Jackson County, furnishing lumber, builders supplies of all kinds, and coal.

W. E. Luttrell was born Jan. 22, 1870, on a farm, one and a half miles south of Blue Springs. He is a son of Willis Luttrell, who was born in 1822 and died March 2, 1893. His parents, Willis and Sarah Luttrell, were natives of Virginia and settled south of Independence, Mo., in the early thirties. Willis Luttrell was reared to young manhood in Jackson County and was married to Martha Jesse, who was born in Virginia in 1827 and died in March, 1895. She was a daughter of John and Polly (Gost) Jesse, natives of Germany. Willis Luttrell engaged in farming and improved a splendid farm of 160 acres near Blue Springs, becoming owner, also, of two other tracts. He reared the following children: Samuel L., former judge of the county court, deceased; John G., deceased; Charles W., de-



ceased; one child died in infancy; W. E., of this review; Sarah, wife of C. J. Dillingham, Blue Springs; and Annie B., of Blue Springs.

Willis Luttrell served in the Mexican War under Colonel Doniphan and during his earlier life was a freighter and plainsman who made several trips across the plains. He was one of the best known of the pioneer citizens of Jackson County, and was universally respected and highly regarded by all who knew him.

W. E. Luttrell followed farming until 1900, when he engaged in the lumber business. He is owner of two, 80-acre farms, one of which is located one and a half miles south of Blue Springs and the other, two miles southwest of the town. He was married in 1899 to Annie E. Jennings, of Jackson County, a daughter of W. B. and Sina Jennings. Two children have been born to this union: Ruth and Marie, now in high school.

Mr. Luttrell is a Democrat. He is a member of the Baptist church and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America.

**Almae C. Hall**, cashier of the Bank of Blue Springs and one of the capable and rising young business men of Jackson County, was born in Miami County, Kan., Jan. 8, 1890. He is a son of W. L. Hall, editor and publisher of the *Sniabar Voice*, of Blue Springs. A sketch of W. L. Hall appears in this volume.

Mr. Hall attended the public schools of Franklin County, Kan. and accompanied his parents to Jackson County, Mo., in 1891, the family settling on a farm three miles east of Independence. In 1893 they returned to Franklin County, Kan. and, from 1894 to 1907, W. L. Hall, the father, was engaged in farming in that county. After completing the common school course in the Ottawa, Kan. public schools, Almae C. Hall attended the Ottawa University, pursuing a business course. After completing the course, he entered the employ of a wholesale grocery company with whom he remained for one year and one week. He came to Jackson County in 1906 and was in the employ of D. C. Herrington in the office of the *Voice* for two and a half years. He and his father then purchased the *Voice* and he remained with the paper until July 1, 1914, at which time he was appointed postmaster of Blue Springs. He held this position for four and a half years and resigned January 1, 1919 to accept the position of cashier of the Bank of Blue Springs. Mr. Hall is filling the position with decided ability and is popular with the patrons of the bank and the citizens of Blue Springs and vicinity.

Almae Hall was married August 11, 1909 to Ruth Hamilton, of Blue



Springs, daughter of Robert E. and Mattie Hamilton, both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have one child, Raymond C., born June 11, 1912.

Mr. Hall is a Democrat of the stanch and true variety. He is prominent in lodge circles and has passed through the chairs of the Odd Fellows twice. He is also a member of the Yeomen.

**Nicholas Cunningham Hodges**, orchardist, living on the Spring Branch road in Sniabar township, was born April 10, 1849, in Sarah County, N. C. He is a son of William C. and Mary E. (Gentry) Hodges, both of whom were natives of North Carolina, and descended from old Southern stock. They came to Jackson County in 1859, and settled near Lone Jack. William C. Hodges enlisted with the Confederate forces and served under Gen. Jo Shelby and General Price, participated in the Battle of Lone Jack, as his initial engagement, and met death in battle in 1865. Three children were left fatherless: William, born in 1859, in Jackson County; Susan Matilda, is deceased; and N. C., subject of this review.

N. C. Hodges was reared to young manhood in Jackson County, and was forced to make his own way in the world. When he and his estimable wife were united in marriage, in 1876, they rented land until 1878, and then began with one acre of ground, upon which they erected a log cabin. This one room log cabin still forms part of the pretty residence of the Hodges, and is one of the attractive features of the home. As the years passed they accumulated more land, and now the home place consists of 60 acres, the Hodges holdings embracing 87 acres in all. Twenty acres of the land is in fruit, which brings the family a comfortable income each year. As age has come upon him, Mr. Hodges has relinquished the active work of the farms to his sturdy sons, but he operates a fruit and cider stand on the lawn of the home during the summer and autumn months. Passing travelers and tourists patronize this liberally, and many dollars flow into the Hodges coffers in this manner.

In 1876 N. C. Hodges was married to Mollie E. Roselle, who was born near Fayette, Howard County, Missouri, in 1860. This marriage has been blessed with the following children: Nicholas Napoleon, married Ella Reed, died in June, 1918; Mary Elizabeth, married Ernest Gardner, lives on a farm three miles east of the Hodges home; Joel B., a farmer, married Aline Tucker, and has one child, Dorothy, aged five years; Claude Gentry, living on the Nelson farm at Grain Valley, married Mary Lotsford, and has one child, Jocely. Claude G. Hodges served in the United States Navy during the World War. He enlisted in August, 1917, was trained at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, saw active duty at Panama,

and was married while home on a furlough. He returned home in March, 1919.

The mother of these children was brought to Jackson County by her parents in 1863, and was reared here. Her father was Elijah H. Roselle, a native of Kentucky. Her mother was Mary E. Allphin, born and reared in Kentucky, where she was married. The Roselles came to Howard County in 1858. During the Civil War Mr. Roselle was made prisoner by the Federals, and taken to St. Louis. Upon his release he took his family to Kentucky, where the wife and mother died.

Three children were born to Elijah and Mary E. Roselle: James W., died in 1907; Mrs. Minnie McCullough, Buckner, Mo.; and Mrs. N. C. Hodges, of this review. The family returned to Jackson County in 1863, where the father lived until his removal to Barton County, where he died in 1913. He was three times married. His second wife was Sallie Ann Pinkerd, who bore him three children: Albert B. and Luther, who died in California, and Mrs. Ollie Westbrook, living near Lamar, Barton County, Missouri. His third wife was Miss Lizzie Kabrick, of Jackson County, who died in 1915.

Mr. Hodges has the distinction of having been one of the youngest soldiers to enlist and serve in the Confederate Army. He enlisted when but 16 years of age, and served under Gen. Dave Pool. He was so small in stature that it was necessary for him to lead his horse to a tree stump before he could mount the animal. His martial experience came to an end, however, at Lexington, where he surrendered in 1865. He is a stanch Democrat, and one of the sturdy, dependable citizens of this county.

**Judge Thomas M. Vermillion.**—For over 42 years, Thomas M. Vermillion has served as justice of the peace at Oak Grove, Mo. and in all probability, he holds the record for continuous service in office in the state of Missouri. Judge Vermillion was born in Lebanon, Va., April 14, 1847, and is a son of Isaac and Martha A. (Boyd) Vermillion, who spent all of their lives in Virginia.

T. M. Vermillion enlisted in October, 1863, in the 16th Virginia Cavalry and served with his command until the close of the Civil War, with the Confederate army. His command participated in many great battles and campaigns throughout the war. He was educated in Lebanon and Abingdon Academies of his native state and began teaching school at an early age. After his marriage in 1866, he taught school in his native state and after coming to Jackson County Oct. 15, 1868, he resumed teaching and had charge of district schools in the neighborhood of Oak Grove



in 1885, teaching in one school for ten years. He followed farming during the summer seasons. In 1885 he was appointed postmaster under President Cleveland and served for four years. When Cleveland was re-elected in 1892 he was reappointed and served for another term as postmaster of Oak Grove.

Mr. Vermillion was first elected justice of the peace in 1877 and has been reelected to the office continuously. He received his first appointment as notary under Gov. Marmaduke in 1877. In addition to his duties as justice and notary during this time he has carried on a successful insurance business and has come to be one of the landmarks of Oak Grove. It is computed that Squire Vermillion has married more couples than any other one official in Jackson County.

Squire Vermillion was married in August, 1866, to Mary A. Aston, who was born March 15, 1850 in Virginia and was a school mate of the subject of this review. She was born and reared in Lebanon and is a daughter of Samuel W. and Louisa (Alderson) Aston. Eight children have been born to this marriage: Samuel A., Higginsville, Mo., for over 30 years agent of the Chicago and Alton Railroad Company at that place; Jacob F., a railroad man at Rusk, Texas; Lutie M. was the wife of Rev. Keys, a Methodist minister, died at the age of 26 years; Hal M. engaged in the wholesale butter business, Dallas, Texas; Robert C., a railroad man, now at home with his parents; Mrs. Dollie C. Shotwell, Odessa, Mo.; Bennett C., a railroad man, Kansas City, Mo. and Mrs. Rector B. (Fowler) died at the age of 26 years.

Mr. Vermillion is a Democrat and a member of the Christian church and his wife is a Methodist. He is probably the oldest Mason, in point of years of membership, in eastern Jackson County, having been a member of the order for over 40 years.

Dr. Z. Smith, who for the past 31 years has practiced his profession in Blue Springs and vicinity, and who has achieved one of the notable business successes in Jackson County, is a member of one of the oldest pioneer families of this section of Missouri. He was born Dec. 22, 1866, in Howard County, Mo., where his parents had removed in consequence of Order No. 11, issued by Gen. Ewing during the Civil War.

Thomas or "Tom" Smith, father of Dr. Z. Smith, was born in Kentucky in 1818, and came to Jackson County, Mo., in 1839. Here he married Fannie Crump, born in 1824, a daughter of Daniel Crump, who came to Jackson County from Kentucky in 1836, and was a son of David Crump. Tom Smith located on a farm in Cass County, Mo., on the county line of Cass and



Jackson counties and resided there until his removal to Howard County. After his return to his farm, two miles south of Lone Jack, he resided there until his death in 1906. The wife and mother died in 1912, at the age of 88 years. Four sons and seven daughters were born to Tom and Fannie Smith as follow: Mrs. Lou Sebre Dixon, deceased; James, deceased; William, Lone Jack, Mo.; Mrs. Pauline Yankee, Lone Jack, Mo.; Mrs. Bettie Allen, near Blue Springs; Samuel, deceased; Mrs. Nannie Yankee, deceased; Lillie, Lone Jack; Georgia, wife of James Compton, deceased; Dr. Z. Smith, of this review; and Lucy, wife of Frank Compton, Independence.

Dr. Z. Smith was reared on his father's farm, attended the district school and studied in the State Normal College at Warrensburg, Mo. He then entered Washington University, St. Louis, and was graduated from this institution with the degree of Doctor of Medicine, in 1888. He immediately began the practice of his profession at Blue Springs and has been engaged in this city and vicinity for the past 31 years. For 16 years, Dr. Smith conducted a drug store in connection with his practice.

Dr. Smith was married in 1892 to Miss Leonora Robertson, of Blue Springs. Two children have blessed this marriage: Frances J., who was educated in the Blue Springs High School, and the Polytechnic of Kansas City and recently appointed postmistress of Blue Springs, as a result of being the winner in a competitive examination to fill a vacancy; Georgia graduated from the Blue Springs High School in 1919, is at home. The mother of these children is a daughter of George Robertson, who was a son of 'Jack' Robertson, one of the tallest men in Jackson County and who was a brother-in-law of Morgan Walker, one of the noted pioneers of Jackson County.

Dr. Smith is a Democrat and is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He is owner of considerable farm land in Jackson County, owning the George Robertson farm of 170 acres, the old Smith home place of 320 acres, near Lone Jack, 160 acres south of Buckner, 80 acres of the Jack Crow place and 12 acres adjoining the town of Blue Springs, besides town and business property.

From 1895 to 1896, inclusive, Dr. Smith held the position of head physician of the county hospital and made a record as a conscientious and capable physician in charge of that institution which has never been surpassed. During his term the amount of drugs used by the inmates of the hospital was less than at any time in its history. When Dr. Smith took charge of the hospital, over 100 drug or narcotic addicts were in-

mates. Heretofore, there had not been any serious attempt to restrict the consumption of drugs and very little effort was made to effect permanent cures of the drug victims. Dr. Smith set to work to win the good will of the unfortunates and in 30 days time, he succeeded and effected cures in practically all of the cases under his care.

**William Scarborough**, farmer and stockman and owner of 135 acres of excellent farm land in Sniabar township, has worked his way to his present position by hard work and self denial. He was born in Kentucky, near Richmond, Nov. 8, 1857, and is a son of William Henry and Nancy Ellen (Stocker) Scarborough, both natives of Kentucky. William H. Scarborough was a son of Jonathan Scarborough, a native of Virginia and an early pioneer in Kentucky. William H. was born in 1837 and now resides at Frankfort, Ky. His wife, Nancy Ellen, is deceased. They were the parents of four children: John Milford, lives in Kentucky; Laura Minden, deceased; Mrs. Rose Elliot Mulberry, Kentucky; and William, of this review.

William Scarborough came to Jackson County from his native state in 1881 and has resided in this county for the past 38 years with the exception of one year in Texas. He was accompanied by his wife and four children when he arrived in this county and his first employment was on the railroad at \$1.50 per day. He then moved west of Independence and worked for one year at monthly wages on the farm of Captain Hickman. His next employment was on a farm at Selsa, Mo., for one year. He then began farming on his his own account and bought his first land, the Thompson farm, in 1904. For a man who landed in Jackson County with a family of five and possessed of but \$25.00 and his household goods, Mr. Scarborough has done remarkably well.

Mr. Scarborough's first marriage was in 1875 with Miss Sarah Bryan of Kentucky, who died in 1890, leaving nine children: John Henry, San Francisco, Cal.; William Harrison, a farmer; George, a farmer; Mrs. Mary Ann Williams, on a farm near Blue Springs; Margaret Ellen, wife of Cowley McGuire, near Blue Springs; Leslie, Independence; Earl, a railway engineer, Slater, Mo.; Mrs. Laura Huber, Kansas City, Mo.; Homer, San Francisco. All of these children are married. Mr. Scarborough has 15 grandchildren. His second marriage was in 1895 with Mrs. Amanda Chapman, widow of Creed Chapman who is mother of four children by her first marriage: Mrs. Virgie Thompson, deceased; Wallace, a farmer, Blue Springs; William, Independence; Mrs. Lela Helm, living on a farm in Jackson County. Two children were born to the second marriage of Mr.



WILLIAM SCARBOROUGH AND WIFE





Scarborough, as follows: Orville and Howard. Orville Scarborough served in the National army during the World War. He trained at Camp McArthur and Camp Merritt, N. J. and was on board ship enroute to France when the armistice was signed. Howard had his arm shot off accidentally when 11 years of age and died four days later.

Mrs. Amanda (Chapman) Scarborough was born in April, 1860, on the old Thompson home place in Jackson County. She is a daughter of William and Lucinda (Webb) Thompson, natives of Tennessee and Alabama, respectively. They came to Missouri in 1846 and resided in Independence for the first year before taking up their residence on a farm. The Thompsons drove to Jackson County with the ox-teams, the trip from the South requiring ten weeks. In 1847 they removed to the Walker farm. In 1852, Mr. Thompson purchased 80 acres and added to his possessions until he owned 135 acres which is now owned by Mr. Scarborough. William Thompson died in 1887. Mrs. Thompson died in February, 1913. They were the parents of five children. During the Civil War Mr. Thompson had many narrow escapes from death. Three times during the war he was stood up to be shot, but each time escaped. The Thompson home was burned to the ground and the live stock stolen and driven away. When the family left the county en route to Illinois in compliance with Order No. 11 all of the live stock which they possessed was one old mare and a yoke of oxen.

Mr. Scarborough is a Democrat. He is a member of the M. E. Church, South, and is affiliated with the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen.

**Larkin J. Johnson.**—Jackson County was developed by the plain farmers, men who all their active lives were tillers of the soil and sons of the pioneers who came to the county when it was a partial wilderness and cleared the ground of dense timber or broke the hard, tough prairie soil. Of this class of citizens was the late Larkin J. Johnson, the son of a Jackson County pioneer and one of a family of 16 children born to David Johnson and wife, an account of whom is given in connection with the sketch of Luther O. Johnson of Sniabar township.

Mr. Johnson was born on a pioneer farm in Jackson County, not far from Independence, June 6, 1843 and died at his home in Blue Springs, Mo. in 1910. He was reared to the life of a farmer and was married Feb. 9, 1864 to Samira Elizabeth Dillingham, near Lexington, Lafayette County, whither the Dillingham family had gone to live when Order No. 11 was issued.

Mrs. Samira Elizabeth Johnson is a daughter of Veachel Dillingham,

also a Jackson County pioneer, an account of whom is given in connection with the sketch of Silas V. Dillingham of the Blue Springs neighborhood. For one year after their marriage Larkin Johnson and his bride lived with his people in Ray County. When the war closed they returned to Jackson County and built up one of the finest 200 acre farms in Sniabar township.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson reared a family of six children out of nine born to them, as follow: Lucy Elizabeth, Dora Frances, Mettie E., Porter, Myrtie E. and Elmer.

Mrs. Lucy Elizabeth Webb is deceased. She was mother of three children: Orvel Webb, who is married and has two children, Virginia Frances and Elberta; Lowell Webb died, leaving one child, R. C. Webb; Mrs. Lizzie Bowers has two children, Belle Marie and Corinne, who lives with her great grandmother.

Mrs. Dora Hutchinson left two children, Silas Priest Hutchinson lives in California and has two children, Sidney and an infant; Elsie, aged 17, who is a teacher in the public schools; Mrs. Mettie Duff is deceased, left one son, Arnold J., a veteran of the World War who served in France.

Porter Johnson has two children, Rex, aged 21 and Almeda Elizabeth.

Mrs. Myrtie Wyett has two children: Elmer Y., aged 19 and Eva May. Elmer Johnson died when a young man. Mrs. Johnson has nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

The late Larkin Johnson was a stanch Democrat. He was a member of the Baptist church and was religiously inclined, a regular church attendant who lived according to his creed, and left behind him an honored name and reputation for sobriety and good citizenship which will always be cherished.

**William H. George.**—The business success achieved by William H. George, leading merchant of Oak Grove, Mo., during the short space of 20 years has been truly remarkable inasmuch as it is often said that there are few business opportunities for an individual in these days of large capital and corporate control of mercantile business and industries. During the time which has elapsed since Mr. George first came to Oak Grove, in 1900, he has built up one of the largest mercantile concerns in eastern Jackson County, built and has operated an electric light and ice manufacturing plant, erected a handsome brick business block, built a fine residence and has accumulated farm land. Mr. George was born at Wellington, Mo., Jan. 27, 1864, and is a son of I. H. and Sarah F. (Leech) George, natives of Virginia, who moved to Missouri in 1847, first located at



Palmyra and then moved to Wellington, in 1859. I. H. George was a cabinet maker and made coffins for the soldiers during the Civil War and also manufactured furniture. In 1868, he removed to Pleasant Prairie and settled on a farm where he resided until 1901, when he located at Oak Grove. He died there in 1915, at the age of 88 years. Mrs. George died in 1917, over 87 years of age. Mr. and Mrs. George were the parents of two sons and four daughters: the first born died in infancy; William H., of this sketch; Mrs. Anne E. Martin, living on a farm in Lafayette County; Mrs. Susie R. Dolan, Joplin, Mo.; Mrs. Ada Campbell, deceased; Mrs. Mollie Owen, deceased.

For four months of each year until he attained the age of 17 years, William H. George attended the district school. He followed farming from boyhood until 17 years old and then followed the carpenter's trade. For 11 years, he worked at his trade in Lafayette County and in 1890, he located in Oregon, Mo. He followed his trade for a time, then operated a livery barn and engaged in the mercantile business with a limited capital. He first sold goods on commission and conducted a business there until 1900 when he came to Oak Grove with a cash capital of \$300 dollars. His Oregon business venture had not been very successful, inasmuch as he had sold goods to customers on time and accumulated a lot of bad accounts. His start in business in Oak Grove was not auspicious, owing to his limited capital. He built a small shack for a store room, and bought sparingly, using his shelving and store fixtures which he had brought from Oregon. After he had built the barn-like store room, he had no money with which to buy goods, but he managed to get a small stock. As fast as he sold goods, he would order more, and attended to business closely, making every dollar work in the business, figuring closely, working day and night, a saving to the utmost, he built up an extensive business. During all this time, Mr. George had never taken a vacation until October, 1919, when he made a trip to Denver, primarily for his wife's health. For the past four years he has been operating an electric light plant, and worked day and night, only going home to his meals.

Mr. George established his business in Oak Grove in 1900. In 1904, he erected the large brick building which houses the George Department Store, supplanting a cheaply constructed box building. This building is 50 x 100 feet, with an 18 foot ceiling and a deck overhead, all around the room. Mr. George carries a general stock of groceries, dry goods and light hardware.

In 1901, he purchased his home in Oak Grove; in 1907, he built an addi-

tion, which houses a restaurant business; in 1908, he built another addition and installed a bakery equipment, thus supplying the town with a bakery. In 1910, he built a new residence, a modern building constructed of stone. In 1912, he erected the Odd Fellows Building of two stories into which the local Odd Fellows lodge moved in 1913. In 1914, he established the electric light plant, wired the city, and furnished the city and townspeople with the comfort of electric lights. In 1915, he installed a modern ice plant in connection with the electric light plant. In 1919, the capital of the electric and ice plants were increased; another engine and generator installed to supply the increased demand for current and light. Mr. George has also a farm which he oversees and he has done some trading in farm lands, owning at the present time, two farms of 72 acres and 90 acres.

Mr. George was married in September, 1890, to Miss Lottie Dorton, of Oregon, Mo., a daughter of John M. Dorton. Four children have blessed this marriage: Leslie Irvin, Harold Frank, John Dorton and Opal. Leslie Irvin George was born Sept. 13, 1894 and is now in charge of the light plant. He served in the U. S. navy for two and a half years. For six months he was stationed at Pensacola, Fla., and then at the Experiment Aviation Station at Washington, D. C. He enlisted in April of 1917. Harold Frank George, who is assisting in the operation of the light and ice plant, was born Sept. 15, 1898. John Dorton George was born in 1901 and also worked at the light plant. Mrs. Opal Parrent, aged 23 years, resides in Oak Grove.

Mr. George is a Democrat and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

**Lewis Cass Gordon.**—The late L. C. Gordon, of Oak Grove, Mo., was one of the best known of the native born citizens of Jackson County, who was a very successful agriculturist. Mr. Gordon was born in Jackson County, in 1851, and died at his home in this county Jan. 8, 1908, after a long and successful career. He was a son of Dr. William Gordon and Zilpha Ann (Philpot) Gordon, both natives of Virginia. Dr. William Gordon was one of the pioneer physicians of Jackson County who ministered to the sick and ailing in the old days when the doctor carried his stock of medicines in his saddle bags and had to ride miles over rough trails and indifferent roads.

When two years of age, the parents of Lewis Cass Gordon took him with them to Holt County, Mo. and he was reared near Forest City. He lived in Holt County until 1873 and then came to Jackson County and was



here married. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon lived for one year in Holt County after their marriage and in 1874 came to Jackson County to make their future home. They resided on a small farm for awhile and then bought a place south of Oak Grove. Mr. Gordon built up a splendid farm of 217 acres and removed to a home in Oak Grove in 1895.

Mr. Gordon was married in 1873 to Miss Lucy Philpot, who was born Sept. 27, 1853, on a farm north of Oak Grove. She is a daughter of Samuel and Amelia (Brown) Philpot, both natives of Tennessee and early settlers in Jackson County, the former of whom died in 1861. Samuel Philpot was one of the great number of hardy and adventurous men who braved the hardships of the long trip across the plains to the gold fields of California in the fifties. He made two trips across the plains one of which was made in 1856. He was well and favorably known among the pioneers of this county.

Six children were born to Lewis Cass and Lucy Gordon, as follows: Samuel, deceased; Mrs. Carrie Welch, at home with her mother; Nina Gordon, a milliner, Oak Grove, Mo.; Dora, married De Loss Triplett, Oak Grove, Mo.; Beulah, at home with her mother; Zula, a bookkeeper in Kansas City.

Mr. Gordon was a stanch Democrat, prominent in the councils of his party, and generally took an active interest in political matters; at one time he was a candidate for county judge. He loved politics and mingled freely with his fellow men. He was intelligent, well read, kept posted on the events of the day and was highly respected and liked by all who knew him. Mrs. Gordon is a member of the Baptist church. He was a Free Mason. Both Mrs. Carrie Welch and Mrs. Dora Triplett are members of the Eastern Star Lodge.

**R. E. Livesay**, of the grocery firm of R. E. Livesay and Son, established in Oak Grove, Mo., in 1905, is a native Missourian and a member of an old and well known pioneer family of this section of the state. He was born in Lafayette County, Mo., in 1867, and is a son of George Washington and Elizabeth (Renick) Livesay, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Missouri.

George W. Livesay was born in 1830 and was a son of Fountain Livesay who came to Missouri in 1833, entered government land and developed a farm. He was married here to Elizabeth Renick, a daughter of William H. Renick, a pioneer of this county who came from Kentucky. A brother of George W. Livesay, named William Livesay, was a well known plainsman and prominent in the pioneer life and development of Jackson



County. He crossed the plains as a freighter in company with W. Z. Hickman, author of this history of Jackson County. The town of Levasy was named in his honor. George W. Livesay died in 1884. His wife, Elizabeth, was born in 1833 and died in 1889. They were parents of the following children: J. R. Livesay, New Mexico; W. F. Livesay, Kansas City; J. S. Livesay, near Independence, Mo.; Mrs. Sallie Bedford, Independence; R. E. Livesay, of this review; and Mrs. Mary Hulse, deceased.

R. E. Livesay attended the public schools of his native county and followed farming pursuits in Lafayette County until his removal to Oak Grove in 1905, at which time he established the successful retail grocery business which is now conducted by himself and his son, R. P. Livesay. He still owns his farm of 120 acres, over the line in Lafayette County.

Mr. Livesay was married in 1889 to Miss Carrie Hulse, a daughter of George W. and Ellen (Steele) Hulse. To this union, the following children have been born: R. P. Livesay, a deputy in the county collector's office; Mrs. Anna Robinson, Oak Grove, Mo.; Eva Livesay, a student in the State University at Columbia, Mo.; Ruth, a student in the Oak Grove High School; Mary Frances and Jean are the two youngest children.

Mr. Livesay is a Democrat. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and the Modern Woodmen of America.

**Dr. Abner Walter Mann**, Oak Grove, Mo., is one of the best known and successful physicians of eastern Jackson County, who has found time outside of his professional duties to be of decided use to his fellow men in other capacities. Dr. Mann was born in or near Lovettsville, Loudoun County, Va., Jan. 10, 1852. His parents were George W. and Leanna (Conard) Mann. His father, George W. Mann, was born in 1822 and died in 1858. He came to Missouri in the spring of 1856, located his family here two years later and his death occurred here in 1858. After the father's death, Mrs. Mann and her family returned to Virginia where she remained for ten years, and in 1868 came to Jackson County. Mrs. Mann bought a home at Pink Hill, northwest of Oak Grove, and resided there until her death, in September, 1890 at the age of 64 years. Four sons and two daughters were born to George W. and Leanna Mann, as follows: Mary L., deceased wife of Charles E. St. Clair, Blue Springs, Mo.; John W. C., deceased; Joseph William, on a farm in the Pink Hill neighborhood; Dr. A. W. Mann, of this review; Ida Alberta, died in Virginia; Franklin L., died at Oak Grove, Mo., at the age of 46 years, Oct. 12, 1902.

When 17 years of age, A. W. Mann became a member of the Meth-

odist Episcopal Church South at Pink Hill, and during the years that have passed, he has lived a true Christian life. He worked hard on his mother's farm, during the spring and summer months and attended the district school during the winters. From 1874 to 1877, he studied at the State Normal School at Warrensburg, Mo., and taught school in the meantime, practically working his way through college. He began the study of medicine in 1881 and graduated from Washington University at St. Louis in 1883. Dr. Mann practiced for three years at Greentown, Mo. and on March 6, 1886, he located at Oak Grove. He has never ceased to keep abreast of the great developments made in the practice of the science of medicine and in 1892 pursued a post graduate course at the New York Polyclinic.

May 24, 1898, Dr. Mann was united in marriage with Miss Anne Payne. One child has blessed this marriage: Leanna Baxter Mann, born April 12, 1899, a graduate of Howard Payne College at Fayette, Mo., and at present teacher of English in the Versailles, Mo., High School.

Dr. Mann is a member of the Missouri Medical Association, and during the World War he was a member of the Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps of Jackson County. In 1901 he was elected superintendent of the Sunday School of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and is still serving in that capacity. He was elected to the office of mayor of Oak Grove in 1913, and filled the office for one year. Dr. Mann is chairman of the board of trustees of his church, is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and is one of the sterling and useful citizens of Jackson County who enjoys the respect and warm esteem of the people of his home city and neighborhood.

**Elmer J. Daniels**, editor of the Buckner Record, was born at Harlem Springs, Ohio, Oct. 28, 1872. He is a son of John and Elizabeth (McCoy) Daniels, natives of Salineville, Ohio. They left Ohio in 1876, and came to DeKalb County, Mo., locating on a farm within three miles of Maysville. They came to Jackson County in 1896 and settled in Independence. During the Civil War, John Daniels served in the Union army with an Ohio regiment.

Elmer J. Daniels was educated in the district schools at Maysville, and also attended school at Cameron Junction. He worked in a print shop when he was a boy and thoroughly learned the printer's trade. His first work in a print shop was at Cameron Junction. When he came to Independence he took charge of the printing plant of the Peoples Union Mercantile Company, a co-operative store which eventually closed its



doors. He then bought the plant from Judge James V. Compton on time, agreeing to pay \$500 at the rate of \$15 per month, and started the Buckner Record. In two years time, he had paid for the plant and was well on the road to success. In 1902, he established the Daily Record at Independence and in 1907, he established the Record in Buckner. Mr. Daniels entered a print shop at the age of 15 years and during all these years, he has never taken a vacation. His plant at Buckner is easily worth \$1,800, and the subscription list will exceed 800 subscribers. In connection or in addition to his printing business, Mr. Daniels is conducting a flourishing real estate and land business.

Mr. Daniels was married in 1900 to Ada Taylor of Independence, a daughter of Frank and Cora (Redman) Taylor, the former of whom was at one time the sheriff of Rush County, Kan. Mrs. Daniels was born in Rush County, Kan. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Daniels, as follows: Xantha Lee and Daniel Dudley, the former aged 17 years, and the latter 10.

Mr. Daniels is a Democrat. He is an aggressive, enterprising citizen of pronounced ability. Mrs. Daniels is a member of the Christian church.

**Judge Samuel L. Luttrell.**—Members of the Luttrell family have long been prominent and influential in the industrial, civic and commercial life of Jackson County and the family is a leading one in the county. It is one of the old established families of the county, the forebears of those now living having come to Jackson County in the early days of the settlement and development of the western part of Missouri. The late Judge Samuel L. Luttrell of Blue Springs, was one of the best known and influential citizens of his day, who made a success as a farmer, mill owner, business man and public official, leaving a record which will endure for all time and of which his descendants can well be proud.

Samuel L. Luttrell was born on the old Luttrell homestead, one mile south of Blue Springs, in Sniabar township, July 23, 1853 and died Dec. 14, 1915. He was a son of Willis Luttrell an account of whom is given in this volume in connection with the sketch of W. E. Luttrell.

Mr. Luttrell received a good education in the public schools of his native locality and studied for two years in the Missouri State University. He resided on the farm after taking up the life of a farmer and stock raiser until his removal to Blue Springs where he engaged in milling. He with his brother, W. E. Luttrell, purchased the Blue Springs Mill which had been erected by his father. Prior to this, with James Howard as a partner, he established the Blue Springs Lumber Company and was thus





JUDGE S. L. LUTTRELL



engaged until his death. The mill was first purchased by Judge Luttrell and Mr. Howard. He and his brother, W. E., purchased the interest of Mr. Howard.

Judge Luttrell was married in 1905 to Miss Anna Cannon of Grain Valley, Mo., a daughter of John Cannon. She died in 1906, leaving a son, Samuel Cannon Luttrell, born Sept. 16, 1906 who resides with his aunt, Miss Annie Luttrell, who is his legal guardian and was her brother's housekeeper after his wife died.

Judge Samuel L. Luttrell was a Democrat who took a prominent and active part in the affairs of his party. He was elected Judge of the County Court in 1900 and served in this position for a term of four years. He brought to the duties of this office the same ability which had enabled him to achieve success in the business world and gave faithful attention to public business. During his term as judge he resided for the last two years in Independence and then returned to Blue Springs. Judge Luttrell was a charter member of the Blue Springs Lodge of Knights of Pythias and was popular and highly esteemed in his native county.

**John P. Webb.**—The life story of the late John P. Webb, of Oak Grove, is a tale of successful endeavor whereby, Mr. Webb displayed wisdom beyond ordinary in addition to having achieved one of the greatest successes of his day in Jackson County. During a long lifetime of endeavor Mr. Webb accumulated sufficient wealth to enable him to give each of his children eighty acres of good farm land. This not being sufficient, just prior to his death, he gave each child the sum of \$4,000. Mr. Webb was a pioneer and a son of pioneers, who settled in this county during the early thirties. He was born in Tennessee, Sept. 22, 1832, and died Feb. 4, 1913. Thomas Webb, his father, was a Tennessean who made the overland trip in a wagon to Jackson County in the early thirties and settled in Sniabar township. Thomas Webb had married Margaret Lucy Glaze, who was born in Tennessee in 1806, and who bore him 13 children, 12 of whom were reared and three of whom are yet living. Of the living children of Thomas Webb, there are Francis Marion Webb, of Oak Grove; Mrs. Euphemia Sharp of Oak Grove; and Narcissa, widow of Alfred Ferguson, lives near Oak Grove. The others were: Mrs. Louisa Darby; Mrs. Curren Philpot; Absalom J.; John P., of this review; Mrs. Elzira Odell; Larkin M.; Jane; Mary; and Louis.

Mr. Webb was a Democrat and Mr. and Mrs. Webb attended the Princeton Baptist church.

John P. Webb was reared on his father's farm, near Oak Grove, and



was married May 8, 1862 to Susan Philpot. Upon the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861 he served six months with the State guards. In August, 1862, he cast his lot with the cause of the South and enlisted in Gen. Joe Shelby's brigade. He fought at the battle of Lone Jack, Little Blue and Westport, and took part in the memorable retreat of General Price's army down through the southland to Louisiana where he surrendered at Shreveport. The children born to John P. and Susan (Philpot) Webb are as follows: Samuel, proprietor of a park and fishing resort near Oak Grove, and a farmer; Josie, wife of J. Wesley Church, southwest of Oak Grove; Addie, wife of James George, south of Oak Grove; Dr. George W. Webb, a practicing dentist in Oak Grove; Fred, a farmer, four miles southwest; Mrs. Lucy McCloud, in Sniabar township; Mrs. Cora Webb Lee, St. Joseph and Jasper, near Oak Grove.

Mrs. Susan P. Webb was born on a farm south of Oak Grove, Oct. 1, 1843, and was a daughter of Addison and Lucy (Jones) Philpot, natives of Virginia, who came to Jackson County in the early thirties. Addison Philpot was born in 1793 and died in 1877. His wife, Lucy, died in 1849. There were ten children born to Addison and Lucy Philpot, those besides Susan being: Lucinda, Anne, Sallie, Polly, Maria, Martin, Samuel, William, and John, all of whom are deceased. Mrs. Susan P. Webb has 26 grandchildren and twelve great grand children.

**The Bank of Buckner, Buckner, Mo.**—This bank has the reputation of being the best and most prosperous country bank in western Missouri and is considered to be the best conducted bank of its size in Jackson County. The Bank of Buckner was organized in April, 1892, and conducted for the next three years with varying success, so that it became necessary to effect a reorganization of the bank in July, 1895. The present cashier, Mr. W. W. Ewing, was then placed in charge and since that time, the bank's progress has been steadily on the upward trend. Its success is due, in great measure, to the ability of Mr. Ewing and the progressive spirit of the men who control the destinies of the bank.

The principal stockholders at the time of the reorganization were: Thomas G. Hall, Judge Samuel W. Hudson, William Hudspeth and James G. Burnley. The original capital of the bank was \$10,000. This has since been increased to \$16,000, and new stockholders have been taken into the corporation. The first president of the bank was Thomas G. Hall.

The present officers are: J. G. Burnley, president; W. W. Ewing, cashier; J. H. Botts, assistant cashier; J. G. Burnley, C. A. Winfrey, Ed C. Roth, R. A. Harra, George C. Rissler, Ed. H. Dieckman and Geo. A. James,

directors. During the past summer and autumn the bank has erected a new brick building of pressed brick and concrete, size 33 x 64 feet, with stone trimmings, and modern throughout, fitted with new and late fixtures and vaults. The main structure was erected at a cost of \$12,000, but the total cost of the bank building and fixtures will exceed \$16,000.

Condensed statement of the Bank of Buckner at the close of business, August 28, 1919, states the resources and liabilities of the bank to be as follows: Resources—Overdrafts, none; bonds, \$1,381.94; real estate and furniture, \$3,695.00; cash and exchange, \$73,217.66; loans, \$200,247.58. Total, \$278,542.18. Liabilities—Capital, \$16,000; surplus and profits, 12,456.73; deposits, \$250,085.45. Total, \$278,542.18.

Eight shares of the capital stock was recently sold for \$405.00 per share, the par value being \$100.00 per share.

**Columbus Renick.**—The late Columbus Renick, of Oak Grove, Mo., is numbered among the late pioneer settlers of this section of Missouri, who were prominently connected with experiences that form the basic history of the early development of the west. Freighting over the plains, the danger of encounter with the Indians, and traveling over miles and miles of territory without seeing the habitation of white men, are some of the experiences with which he was familiar in early life, as well as with the work of developing a home and rearing a family in a frontier settlement.

Columbus Renick was born in Lafayette County, Mo., Jan. 16, 1841, and died July 29, 1918, at his home in Oak Grove. He was a son of William H. and Sallie Ann (Ewing) Renick, natives of Kentucky and Missouri, respectively, and members of pioneer families. Mr. Renick was reared to young manhood in Lafayette County and early heeded the call for men to push farther ahead of the borders of civilization. The life of a freighter appealed to him and he made several trips across the plains with freighting outfits, to Denver and other western points. During the Civil War, he was engaged as government freighter and assisted in hauling supplies to the western forts. He returned to his home in Missouri in 1867 and settled down to the peaceful occupation of farmer. He was married in 1869 to Miss Clara Pallette, who was born Jan. 19, 1845 in Jackson County, Mo. She was a daughter of Abram C. and Martha B. (Dickerson) Pallette, the former born in Tennessee and the latter in Virginia.

The Dickersons first moved from Virginia to Kentucky and thence to Missouri, in 1839. A. C. Pallette was born on Sept. 19, 1810, and died Nov. 12, 1875. He was born in Rutherford County, Tenn. and came to



Jackson County, Mo., in 1831, with an older brother, T. A. Palette. He was married Oct. 15, 1840. His wife, Martha, was born Oct. 12, 1812 and died Jan. 12, 1892. She was a daughter of Griffith and Rebecca Dickerson who came to Missouri in 1839.

When Mr. and Mrs. Renick were married, they settled on a farm of 140 acres, four and a half miles north of Oak Grove. They subsequently added 40 acres to this farm and sold it some time after they moved to Oak Grove. The land which they purchased was unbroken and unfenced. They first built a two room house which was their domicile for some years, while Mr. Renick was breaking the tough prairie soil and getting the land in cultivation. March 3, 1913, they removed to Oak Grove and in the following month of November, they sold the farm which they had improved by years of hard toil for \$150 an acre.

The children born to Columbus and Clara Renick were: Samuel F., deceased, married Rosa Hicklin, and left a daughter, Helen Alice, aged 17 years and is in her third year high school, Grain Valley; Sue T., deceased wife of Robert Livingston; and William R., deceased.

Mr. Renick served for a time in the Confederate army during the Civil War and fought at the battle of Lexington, Mo. He was a dyed-in-the-wool Democrat and was a member of the Presbyterian church. As a citizen he was ideal, had many warm friends, loved his home and fireside and was a kind husband and father.

**Henry Reber**, well to do farmer of Fort Osage township, and owner of 240 acres of valuable land, near the city of Buckner, upon which he established himself in 1873, has been eminently successful in his field of endeavor. The Reber land is splendidly improved and with its rich soil and surroundings, is a most desirable homestead. Mr. Reber is a native of Ohio and was born in Fairfield County, Feb. 25, 1850. He is a son of Joseph and Sarah (Dum) Reber who came to Jackson County in 1867 and settled on the old Hambright place, in Fort Osage township. The half-way station and stage house and tavern were located on the old Santa Fe trail which intersected the Reber land, passing directly in front of the house. For years here was the stopping point for the overland traffic, passing from Lexington to Kansas City and Independence over the old trail.

Joseph Reber accumulated a large acreage of land and spent his last days upon his farm. He was born Jan. 19, 1819 and died Sept. 26, 1902. His wife, Sarah, was born Dec. 11, 1823 and died June 7, 1916. Joseph and Sarah Reber were the parents of ten children as follow: Henry, sub-



ject of this review; Sarah Ann, wife of Joseph Ucker, born Oct. 15, 1851; Albert, born Mar. 28, 1852, married Ann Johnson, and lives on the old Lexington road; John Thomas, born April 11, 1855, lives on the Reber home place; Hattie, born June 2, 1857, married John W. Blue and lives near McCune, Mo.; Scott, born Feb. 14, 1859, lives on the home place; Mrs. Olive Agnes Gilbert, born Feb. 2, 1862, died Jan. 26, 1900; Mary Magdalena, born Jan. 3, 1864, is deceased; Elizabeth, born Feb. 2, 1866, is a Sister of Mercy; Missouri Catherine, born April 7, 1868.

Joseph Reber was a son of Valentine Reber, who was born in Berks County, Pa., May 3, 1777, and was married July 14, 1805, to Mary Magdalena Van Reid, who was born Oct. 21, 1783, and died July 30, 1860. Valentine Reber, migrated to Ohio in 1805 and settled near Royalton, Fairfield County. He served as a member of the Ohio Legislature in 1820, became owner of 1,000 acres of land, had a family of 13 children and died Sept. 12, 1828. Valentine Reber was a son of Thomas Reber, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1746 and died Aug. 27, 1823. Thomas Reber married Elizabeth Kerschner, who was born Nov. 1, 1747 and died Dec. 27, 1817. He had ten children. Thomas Reber was a son of Johann Reber who emigrated from the Old World, April 23, 1742 and joined the colony of William Penn. He was a son of Johann Bernard Reber.

Joseph Reber accumulated a total of 1,400 acres of land in Fort Osage township and was one of the largest individual land owners of Jackson County.

Henry Reber, of this review, was reared in Fairfield and Pickaway Counties, Ohio. He was married in 1873 to Miss Annie Lillard, who was born April 3, 1855 and died March 27, 1895. She was born in Jackson County, a daughter of John Harley and Artemesia (Hamilton) Lillard, pioneers of Jackson County, coming from Kentucky. Lieut. John Lillard was a soldier in the Mexican War and served as a lieutenant in the Second Kentucky Volunteers. The children born to Henry and Annie Reber are as follows: Artemesia, born Aug. 19, 1874 and died Sept. 19, 1875; Sallie; Willie; Tony; and Beatrice.

Sallie, born Oct. 11, 1875, has been twice married. Her first husband was Thos. W. Hudspeth, whom she married Dec. 24, 1895 and by whom she had two children, Anna Jewell Hudspeth, born Dec. 19, 1899, and Martha Pauline Hudspeth, born Nov. 3, 1901. Her second marriage was with E. C. Judy, who lives on the adjoining farm. Willie Reber was born March 29, 1877 and died July 24, 1881. Tony Reber was born May 31, 1880 and died Oct. 15, 1917. Beatrice Reber was born Aug. 26, 1883, mar-

ried July 6, 1919, to Edgar Doan of Liberty, Missouri and resides with Mr. Reber on the homestead. Anna Jewell Hudspeth was married Feb. 21, 1918 to Byron Triplet and has one child, Anna Doris, born Dec. 20, 1918. Martha Pauline Hudspeth was married May 5, 1919 to Norman McLaurine, of Oak Grove, Mo.

Mr. Reber is a Republican. He is well informed and stands high among the citizens of Jackson County. His home is one of the best in the county and radiates hospitality and cheer.

**James G. Burnley**, president of the Bank of Buckner, and extensive farmer and stockman of Fort Osage township, was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, June 10, 1858. He is a son of Norburn N. and Mary (Dick) Burnley, natives of Virginia.

Mr. Burnley's grandparents were pioneers in Ohio, going to their new home in that state on horseback at a time early in the nineteenth century when the section of Ohio to which they were bound was thinly settled, and the greater part of western Ohio being then a wilderness. James Burnley, father of Norburn N. Burnley, moved from his old home in Virginia to Ohio in 1832. Mary (Dick) Burnley was the daughter of Nicholas Dick who also settled in Ohio in the early thirties. Mrs. Mary Burnley died in 1861. The father and seven children came to Jackson County in 1868 and settled on a farm one and a half miles southeast of Levasy, where the elder Burnley improved a good farm. He died in 1896. The seven children of the Burnley family were: Mrs. Mary Klutz; Dick; Sarah; Ella and Margaret, all deceased; James G., of this review; and Mrs. Rosa Holloway, Oak Grove, Mo.

Although the educational opportunities afforded James G. Burnley during his boyhood days were limited, he has managed to acquire a liberal education and has never ceased to be a student, and he is a well read and well informed man. He resided with his father until 1881 and did his full share in the work of his father's farm. He then bought 72 acres of land adjoining the home place of the family, increased his holdings to 135 acres and in January, 1897, he moved to his present place, northwest of Buckner, in Fort Osage township.

Mr. Burnley has been very successful. In fact, he has achieved one of the notable successes in Jackson County as a farmer and stockman. He has owned and operated several farms during his career and he is at present owner of some of the best land in Missouri, well improved and of splendid fertility. His home place is located two miles northwest of Buckner and is improved with a splendid modern residence built of pressed



brick, erected in 1915. Mr. Burnley owns nearly 600 acres of land, in two farms, and is one of the large hog and cattle producers of the country. The Burnley farms produce and feed from 500 to 600 hogs yearly, as well as from 50 to 75 head of fat cattle.

Mr. Burnley was married in 1880 to Miss Louise Strodtman, daughter of John and Sophia Strodtman. Two sons have blessed this marriage: Mora E., married Pearl Harra and has one child, Sarah Louise; Roy, married Ethel Jones, a daughter of Calhoun Jones, and has two children, Evelyn Louise and James Calhoun. Both of Mr. Burnley's sons are located in the Burnley land and are excellent farmers and stockmen.

Mr. Burnley is a Democrat. He is a member of the Christian church. For twenty years he has been president of the Bank of Buckner, and he has been closely identified with the building up of this widely known and successful institution which is considered to be the most successful country bank in western Missouri.

**Albert James Prewitt**, late of Sniabar township, veteran of the Civil War, and one of the early pioneer residents of Jackson County, lived practically all of his days with the exception of the four years spent in the war, in the same neighborhood in Jackson County. He was born in Maryland, in 1833, and died Oct. 14, 1895. He was a son of John and Betsy Prewitt who came to Jackson County in 1836 and settled northwest of Blue Springs.

Mr. Prewitt was reared in Jackson County and in March, 1860, he was married to Mary Ann Ashcraft, who was born Sept. 5, 1836, on Grand River, near Harrisonville, Mo. She is a daughter of Valentine and Cynthia (Hall) Ashcraft, natives of Kentucky, who were early pioneers in Cass County, from whence they came to Jackson County in 1840 and settled on a farm near the Prewitt place. A. J. Prewitt served four years in the Confederate army under Generals Joe Shelby and Price. Thomas Ashcraft, a brother of Mrs. Prewitt, fought in the Battle of Lone Jack and was subsequently killed at the battle of Westport.

Mr. and Mrs. Prewitt settled on their farm in 1879 and erected all buildings and improvements on the place. The Prewitt farm consists of 160 acres, which added to 100 acres owned by George Clyde Prewitt, a grandson, makes a good sized farm which he is cultivating.

Three children were born to Albert James and Mary Ann Prewitt, as follow: James Andrew, George Riley and Martha Elizabeth, all of whom are deceased. George Riley Prewitt married Millie Hall and died,



leaving a son, George Clyde, born Jan. 20, 1892, who has been managing the farm and makes his home with Mrs. Prewitt.

Mr. Prewitt was a Democrat and a man of sterling qualities. Mrs. Prewitt is one of the oldest pioneer women of Jackson County and is well preserved both mentally and physically.

**Benjamin Franklin Harding.**—The log cabin in which B. F. Harding was born in Jackson County, Jan. 26, 1842, is still standing on the Harding home place, not far from Oak Grove. Mr. Harding is one of the oldest of the native born pioneers of Jackson County and carries his age well. He is a son of Greenbury P. and Rebecca (Miller) Harding, both of whom were natives of North Carolina, having been born and reared in that state and there married. With one child they came to Jackson County in 1836 and here founded a new home in what was then a largely unsettled wilderness. The elder Harding cut and hewed the logs for his primitive home and in the course of years accumulated over 1,000 acres of land. He was accounted one of the wealthy citizens of Missouri at the time of the outbreak of the Civil War but lost a great amount of his personal possessions during the war. His seven negro slaves were dispersed, his stock was stolen or killed and all of his ready cash was lost during the war. He was born in 1810 and died in 1868. Rebecca, his wife, was born in 1816 and died in 1852. They were parents of three children: Rev. W. C. Harding, minister of the Baptist church, died in 1859; Benj. F. of this review; John M. died in 1914. By a second marriage with Elizabeth Brown there were three children: Thomas Jefferson, died in Kansas; Mrs. Martha Ann Taylor, deceased; Francis Marion, Columbia, Mo. By his third marriage with Martha Waldron, there was two children: Robert Lee, who died in 1907; and Minnie Green died in infancy.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, B. F. Harding enlisted in the State service under Gov. Jackson and served for one year. In 1862 he entered the Confederate army and served until the close of the war as first lieutenant in Shank's regiment, Second Missouri Cavalry, Gen. J. O. Shelby's Brigade, Gen. Price's Division army. He fought in the Battles of Lone Jack, Prairie Grove, Lexington, Springfield, Cape Girardeau, Boonville, and many other minor engagements and received a wound in the head at the Battle of Prairie Grove. He surrendered at Camden, Ark. and returned home.

Mr. Harding followed farming near Oak Grove until 1908 and then located in Oak Grove where he is enjoying well earned retirement. He began building up his farm in 1866 and lived on one place for 42 years.



E. F. HARDING



MRS. E. F. HARDING





The Harding home place consists of 160 acres in addition to another holding of 85 acres making 245 acres of valuable farm land, owned by Mr. Harding.

On Dec. 20, 1866, Mr. Harding was married to Parthenia J. Webb who died in 1872 leaving three children: Adelia Maude, deceased; Oscar G., southwest of Oak Grove; John A., employed at Armour Packing Company, Kansas City, Mo. His second marriage was with Miss Mary A. Webb who bore him four children: Mrs. Bettie A. Lefholz, near Oak Grove; Nettie Estella, resides with Oscar; Dr. William C., Ottawa, Kan.; Walter B., living with Oscar. The youngest son was a volunteer in the National army and was accepted in the Officer's Training Corps and had orders for active service at the time of the armistice. Mrs. Dr. William C. Harding is a practicing dentist in Ottawa, Kan. and during the World War she was enrolled as a member of the Dental Reserve Corps, receiving a lieutenant's commission.

Mrs. Mary A. (Webb) Harding was born in Jackson County in 1846 and is a daughter of John P. Webb, who came from Tennessee to Jackson County in 1833.

Mr. Harding is a Democrat and is a member of the Baptist church. He is a fine type of the old time Missourian and is one of those whose perseverance and sturdiness have made Jackson County preeminent among the great agricultural counties of Missouri.

**Mrs. Alice Maude Lowe**, Blue Springs, Mo., member of an old and prominent Jackson County family, was born May 12, 1878, near Blue Springs. She is a daughter of Judge Albert Gallatin Williams, late prominent citizen of Jackson County.

Judge A. G. Williams was born in Simpson County, Ky., Dec. 9, 1835, and died at his home in Jackson County, June 26, 1913. His father, William J. Williams, was born in 1792, in Tennessee, in a fort called Station Camp. The grandfather, John Williams, served for six years in the Revolutionary War under Colonel Harry Lee. In 1800 he removed to Kentucky and was the first State Senator from Logan County. William J. Williams fought in the War of 1812, serving as lieutenant of a company that joined Gen. Harrison's forces and took part in the Battle of The Thames. In 1827, he was one of the commissioners to locate the county seat of Simpson County, Ky., and the choice fell upon Franklin as the county seat. He was one of the few Kentucky farmers who did not use slave labor. He served as sheriff of Simpson County and during his term of office, arrested Col. Sam Houston for participating in a duel with Judge

White. Mr. Williams also served several terms in the State Legislature and was a county judge in Kentucky. He had one son, Capt. John P. Williams, who died at Little Rock, Ark. while in the Confederate service.

Judge A. G. Williams first came to Jackson County on a visit in 1852, arriving at Blue Springs on election day. He had received a good education in Kentucky and upon his arrival here, he obtained a position as teacher, a profession which he followed for three years in Sniabar township. In 1863, he went west and engaged in hauling freight to Colorado. In 1865, he returned to Missouri, sold his farm and purchased the old Gibson homestead. He secured 140 acres of land, including the old home and engaged in farming and stock raising. In 1874, he engaged in the grain and livestock shipping business with Lewis Day and was thus engaged for four years. For two years he was connected with the Blue Springs Elevator Company. Judge Williams was one of the first men in Jackson County to engage in the breeding of Shorthorn cattle and he also raised high grade sheep, importing from Kentucky the finest flock of sheep ever brought to the county.

June 6, 1855, Judge Williams was married to Miss Amanda A. Gibson, a daughter of Joseph Gibson. She was born in the house in which she and her husband lived for some years, Aug. 17, 1838. She died Feb. 6, 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Williams spent their last years in Blue Springs. The children born to this marriage are: Martha, died at the age of four years; Louisa America, married Cassius C. Carter and died in April, 1892; Mollie S., married James Shepherd, Independence, Mo.; Permelia Belle, married John W. Stanley, Gardner, Kan.; Joseph Ella, or Jodie, wife of S. W. Porter, Blue Springs; Rufus L., Albert Lycurgus, on the home place; Flora Eden, wife of J. E. Hutchings, Blue Springs; Cora Elizabeth, wife of J. M. Lowe, Blue Springs; Retta Amanda, wife of J. W. Dillingham, Blue Springs, and Alice Maude.

For many years Judge Williams was one of the most prominent citizens of Jackson County. In 1854, he was elected constable and in 1860 he served in Governor Jackson's state militia. He was elected county judge on the Democratic ticket in 1874, and served for two years as presiding judge of the county court. At the time of his death he was filling the office of justice of the peace. He was a member of the Presbyterian church and was prominent in Masonic circles. He was one of the "wheel horses" of the Democratic party and was always doing things to promote the welfare of his party. He was a familiar figure in public and political gatherings and was a man of force and influence in county conventions, serving fre-



quently as delegate to the Congressional and State conventions of his party. Judge Williams was a good public speaker, a ready conversationalist, good hearted, liberal to a fault and ever ready to assist a friend in need. At one time Judge Williams was an extensive land owner.

Joseph Gibson, father of Mrs. Amanda Gibson, came from Simpson County, Ky., to Missouri in 1831, and entered government land. He became owner of 1,000 acres of land. He died in 1845. His wife was Matilda Aden, who was also a native of Kentucky.

Mrs. Alice Maude Lowe was born on the old Gibson homestead, now the Williams homestead in Sniabar township. She was reared and educated in Jackson County. In 1899 she was united in marriage with H. A. Lowe and has the following children: Kenneth Rene, aged 19 years, a senior in high school; Callie Maude, aged 14 years, freshman in high school, and Ivah Justine, aged 12 years. Mrs. Lowe is owner of 250 acres of good land which is farmed by tenants on shares. She is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

**Theodore W. F. Dieckmann**, well-to-do farmer and stockman, of Fort Osage township, proprietor of 155.5 acres of rich Missouri River bottom land, is a progressive Jackson County citizen of the best type. The Dieckmann farm is improved with a substantial modern brick house of eight rooms, erected in 1916. A concrete silo, 16 x 42 feet with a capacity of 220 tons is another modern improvement on the place. Mr. Dieckmann is an extensive live stock producer, making a specialty of pure bred polled Durham cattle, of which he has six head of registered stock, in addition to his herd of 30 grade animals. Mr. Dieckmann produces 60 head of Poland China hogs annually, and he has planted 40 acres of wheat for the next year's harvest. T. W. F. Dieckmann was born in St. Charles County, Mo., March 28, 1872.

Floren Dieckmann, father of Theodore, was born Feb. 10, 1838, and died Nov. 2, 1904. His mother, Wilhelmina (Bierbohm) Dieckmann, was born in 1840 and died in May, 1919. She was born in St. Charles County, a daughter of Fred Bierbohm, a native of Germany. Floren Dieckmann came with his parents from Germany to America in 1840 and was reared and married in St. Charles County. Seeing the need of more and cheaper land for his family of sons, he came to Jackson County in 1890 and purchased a considerable tract of land near Levasy. He then returned to St. Charles County and after selling his holdings there, he again came to this county in 1892, and resided here for the remainder of his life. His children are as follows: Frederick, living in Colorado; Edward, living on an



adjoining farm; Henry, died in childhood; Gustavus living south of Levasy; Theodore W. F., of this review; A. F., living near Levasy; Mrs. Henry C. Gausman, near Levasy.

T. W. F. Dieckmann purchased his farm from his father and placed the improvements thereon himself. He came to this county in 1892 and has identified himself with the best interests of his adopted home community. He was married in 1908 to Hilda Gausman, who was born in Lafayette County, Mo., a daughter of the late Charles Gausman. Four children have been born to this marriage: Clements, Martin, Theodore, and Arnold.

Mr. Dieckmann is an independent Republican and takes an interest in civic and political matters. He is a member of the Evangelical church.

**Eli Necessary.**—When a young man, Eli Necessary, of Blue township, lost his right hand, the loss being caused by the accidental discharge of his gun while hunting. Everything which he owns has been earned since the accident and he has one of the richest tracts of land in Jackson County, well improved. He began with four and a half acres in the Little Blue River bottoms. Mr. Necessary rents land in addition and is farming about 80 acres. He has placed all of the existing improvements on the farm, which also boasts a fishing resort named "Necessary Lake." He has owned his land since 1902.

Mr. Necessary was born in 1874, on a farm, south of Buckner and is a son of Eli and Margaret (Boland) Necessary, an account of whom appears in the sketch of Sater Necessary in this volume. Eli Necessary attended the schools in Buckner and the Stayton and began for himself when 19 years of age. He worked out for three months and then began farming on his own account. He purchased his first farm in 1892, in partnership with his brother, Henry, the Pixley place of 50 acres, east of Independence. He farmed here for five years and then rented the Dan Collier place on the Blue for one year. In 1902, he bought his present farm.

Mr. Necessary was married June 23, 1896 to Miss Lillian May Magill who was born in Cheyenne, Wyo., Aug. 1, 1876. She is a daughter of William H. and Florence (Snyder or "Schneider") Magill, the former of whom was born in Troy, N. Y. and the latter in Cheyenne, Wyo. William H. Magill was a soldier in the regular army and was married at Fort Hartsoff, Neb. He went to Long Pine, Neb. in 1881 and homesteaded land, lived with his family in a sod house, and developed his farm and prospered. He now lives at Ainsworth, Neb., in the seventy-second year

of his age. Mrs. Necessary's mother is aged 68 years. They are the parents of four children: Edward, Harrison, Nebraska; Mrs. Eli Necessary, of this review; twins, Louis, of San Diego, Calif. and Lee, a farmer near Long Pine, Neb. Mr. Magill is a Democrat and a member of the M. E. church.

Florence (Snyder) Magill, is a daughter of Leodegar Snyder, who served for 52 years in the regular army, a longer period than has ever been served by any other soldier. His widow, Mrs. Letha (Hathaway) Schneider, was again married to James J. Boland, who also served in the regular army.

Leodegar Schneider was born in Sucee, Switzerland, and came to America when 13 years old. He enlisted in the regular army in 1837 and served until his retirement in 1896. James J. Boland was born in 1834 at Corinth, Miss., and moved to Dade County, Mo., in 1839. He enlisted in the United States army in 1855 and served under Gen. Joseph E. Johnston in the campaign against the Mormons in Utah. He served in the Union army in the Civil War and fought in many battles. He was a brother of Mrs. Margaret Boland Necessary. He moved to Independence in 1892. Mrs. Boland died Nov. 13, 1917, aged 82 years.

Mr. Necessary is a Democrat. He and Mrs. Necessary are members of the Methodist Church South.

**James I. Boland** died in February, 1911. His service began with the United States regular army at Fort Leavenworth in 1855 and there he wished burial. He was one of a family of five boys who with their parents came from Corinth, Miss. to Dade County, Mo. In 1855 James Boland, a brother, and his father joined the First Cavalry, at Fort Leavenworth and James was made chief trumpeter of his regiment. The Civil War found him in the army, a member of the Fourth Cavalry. In 1861 he married Mrs. Letha Schneider, widow of Leodegar Schneider. Mrs. Boland accompanied her husband from station to station in his frontier service, and returned to Fort Leavenworth in 1881, with Troop L, Fourth Cavalry, commanded by Theodore J. Wint. There they remained the next four years, when the call of the front again took Boland to other parts, and when finally retired, in 1891, was serving at Fort Walla Walla, Wash. Upon his retirement he removed to Independence, Mo.

The late Gen. John B. Furay of the quartermaster's department, left the following of the Grattaon Massacre, he being stationed at Laramie during its occurrence:

"In August, 1854, a passing Mormon immigrant train lost a cow



from the herd. She strayed about until her hoofs were nearly worn off, and she fell exhausted, near an Indian camp. One of the Indians killed her, perhaps more out of mercy than from the need of the hide and flesh, but he may have assisted in eating the beef.

"When the Mormons learned of this they were indignant and came to the post and asked the commanding officer to send his troops to the camp and demand the Indian who killed the cow. A young lieutenant was in command, and he ordered Second Lieut. John L. Garnet, with a detachment of 30 soldiers, to the camp of Chief Mat-toi-oway, where the 10,000 red men were camped, with instructions to bring back the man who killed the cow.

"Lieutenant Grattan came to Sergeant Schneider for ammunition to supply him for the trip, and also two field pieces. The sergeant advised him to be careful in his dealing with the red men. The haughty youngster, just fresh from school, did not take the advice kindly, and rode proudly away with his soldiers to the camp, many miles distant.

"He was met in a friendly way by the chief, and very authoritatively made his demand. The chief explained that the cow was killed more as an act of mercy than in an unfriendly spirit toward the whites, but offered to give the officer one of his cows in place of the one killed. This, the lieutenant refused to accept.

"The chief then offered to add another cow, then a pony, and finally two ponies, but still was refused. The lieutenant insisted that he must carry out his orders. The chief then turned to go back to his tent, when the young officer fired upon and killed him instantly.

"This treachery so shocked the Indians that all was consternation for a time, but they soon recovered and turned upon the soldiers, killing every man but one. The Indians then began murdering and torturing every white person they could find."

**John W. Tatum**, late well known citizen of Blue Springs, veteran of the Civil War, and one of the pioneers of Jackson County, was born in Patrick County, Va., Nov. 21, 1834, and died at his home in this county, May 10, 1918. His parents, Thomas J. and Elizabeth (Clark) Tatum, moved to Jackson County from Virginia, in 1839. Thomas J. Tatum secured a claim of several rich tracts of land and developed his land with the assistance of negro slaves whom he had brought from Virginia. The Tatum family consisted of four sons and three daughters, all of whom are deceased, excepting Thomas Tatum who lives at Blue Springs. John W. Tatum of this review was the oldest of the family. The others are:



David F. Tatum, deceased; Priscilla and Martha Jane, died unmarried; Nancy, was the wife of J. B. Shaw; Sallie, married Joseph P. Bridges; James Edward Tatum was killed while serving in the Civil War, aged 23 years.

During the Civil War, Thomas J. Tatum removed with his family to Carroll County where they remained until 1865. When the war closed his slaves were gone, his horses stolen and everything portable on the place had been carried off, and his buildings were in ruins. With his three remaining sons, he set to work to rebuild his place and again succeeded. He died in 1875.

From 1855 to 1860, John W. Tatum was employed by Majors, Waddell & Russell, government contractors, as assistant wagon master in freighting goods to New Mexico and for Irving and Jackman in freighting goods to Fort Laramie.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, he joined the state troops and participated in the Battle of Lexington, under Col. Rosser. After the battle of Pea Ridge he joined Gen. Price's army and was in the Second Battle of Corinth. In 1862, he recrossed the Mississippi and joined Shelby's cavalry, with which he remained during the campaign in Missouri and Arkansas. Mr. Tatum surrendered at Sherman's Point. Three of his brothers served in the war, James Edward was killed at the Battle of Lone Jack and David Tatum was wounded while in the service.

After the war M. R. Tatum settled down to farming and became possessed of the home place. He became owner of 242 acres of land upon which he and his wife and family resided, continuously, with the exception of two and a half years spent in Independence.

Mr. Tatum was married in 1877 to Mary J. Donahue, who was born in October, 1856, in Jackson County, a daughter of Patrick and Caroline (Thompson) Donahue. Her father was a native of Ireland and her mother of Tennessee. Patrick Donahue came to America in 1850 and died in 1870. Caroline, his wife, was born in 1832 and died in 1909. She was a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Fox) Thompson, natives of Tennessee who came to Jackson County about 1840. They were the parents of six children: Mrs. E. D. England, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. M. E. Murphy, a widow, Kansas City; William P., Mt. Washington; Henry, Clay County, Mo.; Andrew J., deceased; and Mrs. Mary J. Tatum, of this review.

The Donahue family came overland by wagons to Jackson County, and in January, 1866, Mr. Donahue took his family with him to Atchison County, Kan., where he homesteaded land. Prairie fires wiped out his

home and he settled in Atchison where the father died March 3, 1870. The widow and children then returned to Jackson County.

The children born to John W. and Mary J. Tatum are as follow: George E. and John W., living in Kansas City; Harry D. died at the age of 31 years; James C. manages the Tatum farm; Walter D., living in Colorado; Mrs. Birdie C. Crenshaw, living in Sniabar township; and Hazel, a teacher in the public schools.

Mr. Tatum was a Democrat and a member of the Baptist church. He was universally respected by all who knew him.

**Ambrose Mann.**—The career of Ambrose Mann, retired farmer of Buckner, has been a satisfactory and useful one. His 83 years of existence have been replete with good deeds. While his activities have somewhat diminished with advancing age he remained busily engaged at a time when most men have retired and given up their earthly tasks. Despite his great age, this patriarch is keen, mentally and well preserved physically.

Mr. Mann came from Indiana to St. Charles County, Mo. in 1859 and followed farming there for ten years. In the spring of 1870 he came to Jackson County and settled in the Blue River bottom lands near Ather-ton where he purchased 100 acres. This farm was his home until 1879, when he rented it and for the next five years lived on the Bagby farm. In 1884 he purchased a farm of 160 acres of Joe St. Clair and resided on this farm, which was located on the old Lexington road until 1902. He then purchased a home in Buckner in which he resided for three years. He then bought the adjoining property and all of the land between his home and the railway depot. He platted this land in 1912 and sold it, the plat being known as the Mann addition to Buckner. He sold his farm and divided the proceeds among his children, giving each child \$2,500 apiece. Mr. Mann retained enough property and means to enable him to live comfortably and well.

Ambrose Mann was born in Kentucky, Sept. 14, 1836, a son of Jesse P. and Mary (Thorpe) Mann, natives of Shelby County, Tenn. and reared in Kentucky. Jesse P. Mann reared nine children all of whom married: William F.; Emaline Pace, Mrs. Serilda Cline; Mrs. Juliana Strange; and Ezra are deceased; Israel, born in February, 1834, lives in North Dakota; Ambrose, subject of this review; Mrs. Rebecca Taulbee, died in January, 1917; Washington, deceased. When Ambrose Mann was six weeks of age his parents drove to Indiana and settled in Hendricks County. Mr. Mann was reared in that vicinity and resided in Indiana until 1859 when





AMBEROSE MANN AND FAMILY.





he came west. Jesse P. Mann died April 1, 1862. Mrs. Mary Mann died in 1883.

Mary (Thorpe) Mann was a daughter of John and Rebecca Thorpe.

Mr. Mann has been twice married. His first marriage was in St. Louis County, Mo., March 7, 1860, with Mary Ellen Griggs, who was born in August, 1842 and died June 6, 1864, leaving three children: Asa Thomas Mann, Blue Springs, Mo.; Washington Davis Mann, near Independence; Charles Willard was accidentally drowned in a barrel of water when four years old. His second marriage took place on Oct. 26, 1866 with Miss Irene Ann Custer, who was born in St. Charles County, Mo., Aug. 21, 1846, and is a daughter of Christopher C. and Violet (Darst) Custer, natives of St. Charles County, Mo. The children born to this marriage are George, living south of Independence; Violet, deceased; Harry, blacksmith, Buckner, Mo.; Mrs. Alice Hamilton; Frank, near Buckner; Rosa Scott, deceased; Ora, Blue Springs; Mrs. Hattie Hochstetter, whose husband is a foreman at the Jackson County farm; Julius, deceased; Cecil, hardware merchant, Buckner, Mo.; Mrs. Rena Roffe, Springfield, Mo. Mr. Mann has a total of 100 descendants, including the wives of his sons, the husbands of his daughters, grandchildren to the number of thirty-six living, and great grandchildren numbering twenty-four. Ten grandchildren are deceased and ten great grandchildren are deceased.

Asa T. Mann married Lucy Wright and had children as follow: Gracie, wife of Archibald Morris; Eva, wife of Francis Corn; Jewell, married Goldie Dyer; Boyd, married Mabel Vaughn; Sadie is the wife of Stanley Wood; Emma, married Claude Crook; Hazel, Beulah and Birdie Irene.

Washington David Mann married Bettie Odell and has six children: Edward is married, wife Edna; Ray married Genevieve; Ethel is wife of Harry Shortle; Marie is wife of Rex Jones; Virginia and Washington, Jr.

George H. Mann married Carrie Odell and has three children: George, Jr., married Etta Courway; Thomas and Violet.

Harry Mann has one son, Harold.

Alice Mann married Lee Hamilton and has children as follow: Maude H., married Orville Vandyke; Harry, Russell, Edgar, Christopher C., Rosa, Oscar, Hattie, Irene, Samuel, Susan and Dorothy.

Rosa Mann is wife of W. W. Scott and has children as follow: W. R. Scott married Ethel Shafer.

Hattie Mann is wife of G. W. Hostetter and has three children: Ernest, Hugh and Margaret.

Frank Mann married Mattie Corn and has three children: Paul, Willard and Cecil.

Ora Mann married Nora Harris and has two children, Harris and Mary.

Cecil J. Mann married Bertha Shafer and has two children, Thelma and Bernard.

Rena Mann married A. F. Roffe and has three children: Neva, Margaret and Robert Lee.

Mr. Mann is one of the well to do citizens of Buckner and among the best known and highly respected citizens of Jackson County. Every descendant of his is a good citizen and doing well. Mr. Mann is owner of the building in which the local hardware store is housed, owns two brick buildings on Main street and three good residences in Buckner. He and Mrs. Mann have celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. He is a Democrat and a member of the Baptist church. Mrs. Mann is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Rufus G. Kelly, extensive farmer, stockman and dairyman, Blue township, has one of the most picturesque farms in Jackson County. The Kelly place consists of 430 acres, which he purchased in 1912. One hundred and ninety acres consists of valley land, fertile and productive, the rest of the farm being pasture and woodland. Mr. Kelly paid \$72.50 an acre for his farm, which was in a general run-down condition, grown up with brush and practically unfenced. The rail fences have been supplanted with woven wire fencing. The brush has given way to rich looking fields, which produce bountiful crops. The Kelly land has produced as high as 80 bushels of corn to the acre. Ten acres grown in 1917 produced 800 bushels, which sold for \$1.15 per bushel. Two and a half miles of hog-tight wire have succeeded the old rail fences; 4,200 new fence posts were required; and 72 spools of barbed wire were used in fencing the fields. Mr. Kelly has also built his own roadway. The old log house which stood on the place has been remodeled, weather boarded, three rooms added, new floors put in, a lighting plant installed, and the buildings all placed in splendid condition. Mr. Kelly erected a barn and other buildings, and has only recently erected a dairy barn, capable of housing 40 milch cows. He has been offered twice what he paid for the farm, but has refused the offer. Besides the residence, there are two tenant houses on the place, which also has a part of Necessary Lake within its borders.

Mr. Kelly was born in Doniphan County, Kansas, in 1870. He is a son of Philip and Josephine (Bates) Kelly, natives, respectively, of Ohio



and Vermont, the mother having been born in Brandon, Vt. Philip Kelly was born in Ohio in January, 1840, and upon the outbreak of the Civil War, he enlisted in an Ohio regiment and served throughout the conflict, his comrade having been Frank Rockefeller, brother of John D. Rockefeller. In 1866 he came West, and located in Doniphan County, Kansas, and established a mercantile business at White Cloud, Kan., where he still resides, at the age of 80 years. Mr. Kelly also homesteaded land in Ness County, Kansas, under the veteran homestead act. Mrs. Kelly is aged 75 years. Four children were born to Philip and Josephine Kelly, as follow: George Bates, Rufus G., James P., merchants at White Cloud, Kan., and Abbey died at the age of 13 years.

Rufus Kelly was reared and educated at White Cloud. In 1892 he engaged in the mercantile business with his brothers, and continued in business until 1902. He sold out his interest in the business to his brothers and located in Kansas City, where he engaged in the automobile business until coming to the farm in 1912.

Mr. Kelly was married in 1900 to Miss Kitten Orton, of White Cloud. She is a daughter of Charles and Louise (Delaware) Orton, natives of New York and Vermont, respectively, and were pioneers in White Cloud, Kan. Both are deceased. He is a Republican, and is a Mason. Mrs. Kelly is a member of the Congregational Church.

**Sater Necessary.**—The Necessary farm, situated four miles east of Independence, in Blue township, is one of the most attractive in Jackson County. This farm consists of 185 acres, and is improved with two tenant houses besides the residence. Mr. Necessary was born Dec. 23, 1867, in Dade county, Mo., a son of Eli Necessary.

Eli Necessary was born in Tazewell County, Va., Oct. 2, 1843 and died Jan. 20, 1886. He was a son of Wesley and Annie (Chiddix) Necessary, both of whom were members of old Virginia families. Eli Necessary enlisted in the Confederate army in March, 1862, in Texas and saw much active service with Walker's Division, Griffith's Battalion, Company C. His command disbanded at Houston, Texas, in 1865. Three sons of Wesley Necessary served in the Confederate army. In 1866 the family started on the migration which finally led them to Missouri in search of a home. They first went to Illinois. The outbreak of the war found them in Texas. From Texas they came to Missouri, traveling the entire distance in "linch-pin" wagons. In the fall of 1868, Wesley Necessary, with six sons and two daughters settled near Lake City, Jackson County. These sons and daughters were John W., Samuel P., Eli, William, Henry, Charles, Eliza

and Mary Necessary. He purchased the old McGee homestead south of Buckner.

Eli Necessary was married Dec. 5, 1866, to Margaret Boland, who was born Dec. 29, 1839 and died March 23, 1918. She was a daughter of John and Rebecca Boland, the former of whom died in October, 1864, and the latter March 18, 1853. In 1869, Eli Necessary went to California and two years later he returned to Missouri and settled on part of the home place. In 1879 he moved to Buckner. In 1884 he sold out and made his home on the place now owned by his son Sater with whom he resided until his death. The children born to Eli and Margaret Necessary are: Sater, subject of this review; Henry, born May 6, 1870; Ader, born April 30, 1872; Eli, born Feb. 19, 1874; Morgan, born Jan. 18, 1877; Murtie, born Dec. 12, 1878.

Sater Necessary began accumulating land in 1886 when he purchased 80 acres of his present place, and he has added to his farm until he owns 185 acres of well improved farm land. He was married Feb. 25, 1891 to Miss Minnie A. Scott who has borne him children as follows: Hugh J., Gracie Evaline, Margaret Rebecca. Hugh J. Necessary was born Dec. 14, 1891, and is an electrician in Colorado. He was married at Colorado Springs, Sept. 20, 1919, to Helen G. Brady, of Butler, Pa. Gracie Evaline was born Sept. 6, 1893, is the wife of James Robert Hedges, and is mother of two children, Alma Alpha and Robert Kenneth. Margaret Rebecca was born Feb. 25, 1897, is wife of Walter Durham, Independence, has one child, Alpha G.

The mother of these children was born July 15, 1869, on the old Chambers place and is a daughter of James G. Scott, who was born Nov. 7, 1836 in Jackson County, a son of pioneer parents. During the latter years of his life he resided in Bates County, Mo. He died Sept. 7, 1904. He married Evaline Stover Dec. 23, 1860. She was born Dec. 9, 1841, and died Aug. 7, 1876. Their children were: Nancy J. Cox, of LaCygne, Kan., born April 23, 1862; Martha E., Estes, Lone Jack, Mo., was born Dec. 29, 1863; Frances D., wife of Joseph Churchhill, Smithshire, Ill., born August 26, 1867; Lou A., wife of William Barton, Nevada, Mo., born Oct. 17, 1865; Mrs. Minnie A. Necessary; Daniel W., born Jan. 14, 1871, lives in Bates County, Mo.; James E., born June 29, 1873, lives in Kansas City, Mo.; William D., born July 15, 1876, died Aug. 19, 1876.

Mr. Necessary is a Democrat. He and Mrs. Necessary are members of the Methodist Church South. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.



**Edwin F. Borgman**, cashier of the Bank of Levasy, Mo., is a native of Jackson County. He was born Dec. 12, 1887, on a farm one and a half miles south of Levasy. He is a son of Henry H. Borgman, Jr., now living retired in Levasy.

Henry H. Borgman, Jr., was born in Warren County, Mo., Jan. 15, 1854 and is a son of William and Malinda (Landwehr) Borgman, both of whom were of German descent. William Borgman was born in Germany 1826 and died in 1892. He immigrated to America in 1848, and settled in St. Charles County where he was married to Malinda Landwehr who died in 1910. The parents of Henry H. Borgman moved to Warren County, and he was there reared and married. Mr. Borgman came to Jackson County in 1878, and bought a farm of 117 acres on Bone Hill south of Levasy. He cleared the greater part of his farm of timber, and erected all of the buildings and improvements on the place.

Mr. H. H. Borgman was married Aug. 19, 1880 to Mary Drewel, who was born in Gasconade County, Mo., Sept. 30, 1857. She is a daughter of Rev. Frederick Drewel, a pioneer minister of the Evangelical church, who organized congregations at Lexington, Napoleon, Wellington and Levasay. He organized the church at Levasy in 1892. The children born to H. H. and Mary Borgman were: Annie, wife of Henry Twiehaus, Independence; Mrs. Lucy Twiehaus, living near Levasy; Etta Woodrich, on the home place; Edwin Borgman, cashier of the Bank of Levasy; William, a farmer; and Theo. F., at home.

Edwin F. Borgman was educated in the district school on Bone Hill and the Central Business College, Kansas City, Mo. He followed farming on the home place until he took the position of cashier of the Bank of Levasy in 1911. He was married in June, 1915 to Miss Alma Gross of Kansas City. They have one child: Edwin Henry, born in January, 1918.

Mr. Borgman is a Republican. He is a member of the Evangelical church and is a wide awake progressive young citizen who is making a success as a banker.

The bank of Levasy, Levasy, Mo., was chartered for business Jan. 23, 1907. The work of securing the subscription to the stock of the bank was done in the fall of 1906 by H. A. Meinershagen and G. A. Dieckmann. The stock of the bank is practically all held by neighboring farmers. The first president of the bank was S. H. Chiles. The first cashier was F. C. Harra. Mr. Chiles was succeeded as president by C. W. Ryan. Mr. Harra was succeeded as cashier by N. H. Landes. The present officers are John



H. Schuster, president; G. S. Hawes, vice-president; E. F. Borgman, cashier; J. H. Schuster, G. S. Hawes, Edwin F. Borgman, S. H. Stock, Henry Weitkamp, Henry Stock and H. C. Gausman, directors. The capital stock of the bank is \$10,000. The deposits exceed \$130,000 and the total resources are over \$150,000.

**Gillam Dalton**, prosperous farmer, of Blue township, was born on a farm near Independence, Feb. 28, 1863. He is a son of Henry M. and Nancy Elizabeth (Johnson) Dalton, natives of Kentucky.

Henry M. Dalton was born Nov. 29, 1821, and died Feb. 16, 1896. His wife was born May 14, 1834 and died Jan. 26, 1880. They were parents of 14 children: Mary A. Hobbs, Colorado Springs, Colo., born Jan. 18, 1854; Mrs. Margaret A. Price, Olathe, Kan., born Feb. 20, 1855; Isabel Ketchum, California, born Sept. 17, 1856; Mrs. Henrietta Harris, Independence, born April 17, 1858; David R., Butler, Mo., born Nov. 26, 1858; Jesse, born Jan. 16, 1861, deceased; Gillam, subject of this sketch; Walter, Independence, Mo., born March 11, 1865; Nannie L., Kansas City, born Jan. 1, 1867; John M., Merrill, Mo., born Oct. 15, 1868; Lucy J., Independence, Mo., born Feb. 18, 1870; Sarah, deceased, born Feb. 1, 1872; James L., deceased, born Sept. 19, 1873; one child died in infancy. Henry M. Dalton came to Jackson County in the late thirties. He served under Col. James Doniphan in the Mexican War, as a teamster and returned home by way of New Orleans and was married in Jackson County. His wife was born in Jackson County.

Gillam Dalton was married June 23, 1889 to Miss Mary E. Bowlin. This marriage has been blessed with children as follows: Virgie Ann, Gladys Ora, Harley G., Rosa Emma, Marvin Gillam and Frances Claudine. Mrs. Virgie Ann Browning was born Feb. 1, 1890 and died in October, 1918, leaving two children, Viola May and Lawrence Edward. Mrs. Gladys Ora Darke, was born July 8, 1891, lives in Colorado and has two children, Willis and Lucille. Harley G., born Feb. 8, 1894, is a farmer, married Dec. 19, 1916, to Mary A. Russell and has one child, Mary Louise. Rosa Emma was born Jan. 18, 1897. Mrs. Mary Aline Conway was born Feb. 17, 1900, and is living on a farm one and a half miles north of the Dalton place in Blue township. Marvin Gillam was born Feb. 10, 1906. Frances Claudine was born March 24, 1909.

The mother of the foregoing children was born within one half mile of her present home, Aug. 15, 1867 and is a daughter of Jacob G. and Mary E. (Frans) Bowlin, natives, respectively, of Kentucky and Virginia. Jacob G. Bowlin was born May 24, 1837, and died Jan. 17, 1890. He ac-

accompanied his parents to Missouri when but a child, and was a son of George Bowlin, one of the first pioneers of Jackson County. Mary E. (Frans) Bowlin was born April 29, 1840, and died Jan. 21, 1912. She was a daughter of William Frans who entered a considerable acreage of government land, much of which is still owned by his descendants, Mrs. Dalton owning 59 acres of the original Frans land.

The children born to Jacob G. and Mary E. Bowlin are: George W. born Dec. 29, 1859, died Aug. 25, 1909; Nancy E., born Feb. 5, 1862, died in infancy; Albert C., born June 26, 1864; Mary E., born Aug. 15, 1867; Lillie A., born Oct. 15, 1868, died July 8, 1898; married a Phelps; Lulu M., wife of Marion Phelps, Blue Springs, Mo., born Oct. 8, 1871; Mrs. Ella J. Turner, on a farm one mile east of the Dalton place, born May 14, 1873; Mrs. Agnes E. Ward, born April 8, 1875, Huntsville, Mo.; Nora, on the home place, born July 18, 1877; Sarah Emma, born Dec. 2, 1879; Leslie M., born June 17 1883, died in infancy; Jacob Bowlin and his wife settled on the Frans land and there built their home and reared this large family. At the time of his death, Mr. Bowlin owned 1,100 acres of good farm land and was accounted one of the wealthiest citizens of Jackson County.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Gillam Dalton lived on rented land for some years and on April 28, 1892, they purchased their present place upon which they have placed all of the improvements. Their combined ownership of land will exceed 324 acres.

Mr. Dalton is a Democrat and the family are members of the Baptist church. Mr. and Mrs. Dalton have many warm friends among the old families of Jackson County and are prominent in the county.

**Morton Perrin.**—The late Mortin Perrin, of Fort Osage township, was a citizen of worth in the community. He was industrious, planned for the future, and at the time of his death, was developing a fine homestead. The Perrin home is now one of the most attractive in Jackson County. Its location, at the head of a long slope, is ideal. The driveway to the residence is flanked by rows of walnut trees, five rows on each side of the lane, with clusters of hard wood or sugar maples which were planted by Mr. Perrin in 1876. The trees have grown to be tall and imposing and excite the wonder and admiration of travelers along the Lexington road.

Morton Perrin was born in 1845 and died in 1886. He was a native of Platte County, Mo., and was a son of Aytchmonde Lane and Julia (Morton) Perrin, who were natives of Crab Orchard, Ky. They were among the early pioneers of Platte County and there established a home and reared their family. Morton Perrin received a good education and was known



as a well read man. During the War of the States he went to Montana and remained in the West until the close of the conflict. After his marriage, in 1875, he settled on what is now known as the Perrin place, but which he called "Valley View." This farm, a splendid property, consists of 290 acres and is one of the best in this section of Missouri.

Mr. Perrin was married to Miss Anna Chiles who was born in 1852, on the Frank Chiles homestead in Fort Osage township. She was a daughter of Joel Franklin and Azubah (Skinner) Chiles, who were pioneer residents of Jackson County. Full details of the history of the Chiles family in Missouri are given in this volume. Three children were born to this marriage: Aythchomonde Lane, Mary Margaret and Julia. Julia, the youngest, died in California where her parents had gone for the benefit of Mr. Perrin's health. Aythchomonde Lane Perrin resides in Osage County, Missouri. He married Georgia Robinson, and has one child, Mary Anna. Mary is the wife of Raymond Walker, and resides on the Perrin home place.

Mr. Perrin was a Democrat but took little active part in political matters. Outside of his family circle he was most devoted to his church and Sunday school. From early manhood, he filled the post of deacon in the Christian church and was always active in furthering the church and Sunday school affairs. Although deeply religious and unusually moral, his was a cheerful, sunny disposition. One of his mottoes was, "It is better to wear out than to rust out," and while always physically rather frail, he consistently lived up to this until the end.

**Samuel Hamilton Chiles**, president of the Farmers Bank of Buckner, former marshal of Jackson County, successful farmer and stock man, and member of an old and prominent pioneer family of Jackson County, now living retired in Buckner, Mo., was born on the Chiles homestead in the vicinity of Six Mile Baptist church Dec. 25, 1844.

Col. James Chiles, his father, was a native of Boyle County, Ky. During the Florida War he commanded a regiment of United States soldiers. While engaged in battle with the Seminoles during this war he was severely wounded and suffered from his wounds during the remainder of his life. He was married in Kentucky to Miss Ruth Hamilton, born in Clark County, Ky., a daughter of Andrew Hamilton. She died in Fort Osage township, in 1870, leaving children as follows: Mrs. Mary Erwin; Lt. Henry Chiles, veteran of the Mexican War; Elijah, who served in Colonel Doniphan's regiment during the Mexican War; Cornelius; James; Croitia Ann; Mrs. Ruth Phelps; Mrs. Isabella Shortridge; Mrs.





S. H. CHILES AND FAMILY.





Susan Black; William, and Samuel H. of this review, the only survivor of the family. Col. James Chiles came to Jackson County, in 1832 and settled upon a large estate in Fort Osage township. He entered government land and purchased land which he developed with the labor of negro slaves whom he brought from Kentucky. He became prominent in Missouri and represented Jackson County in the State Legislature for several terms, serving one term as speaker of the House of Representatives. Col. Chiles removed to Gayson County, Texas during the Civil War, returning to this county after the close of the war. He died in March, 1883.

Samuel H. Chiles, of this review, enlisted in May, 1861, as a private soldier under Gen. Joe Shelby in Co. E, Second Missouri Cavalry and served for one year in this command. During the latter three years of the war he served with the Second Missouri Artillery. He took an active part in the following engagements: Rock Creek, Mo., Cowskin River, Mo., Lexington, Mo., Wilson's Creek, Pea Ridge, Ark., Prairie Grove and a number of skirmishes and Churchill's winter quarters on White River. He took part in General Price's retreat southward from Missouri, a retreat which was beset with continuous fighting. Another engagement was at Catfish Point, where they fought with the Federal gunboats on the Mississippi River above Gaines Landing, the next fight being at Gaines Landing. His last fight was at Jenkins Ferry, Ark., April 2, 1864. In this battle he was wounded in the right arm, taken prisoner, and confined in the government prison at Rock Island, Ill. He was exchanged and paroled and at the time of the regiment's surrender he went to Texas and joined his father, returning with the family to Jackson County in 1865. For the next two years he lived on the home place of the family. He then located on his present farm situated on the Santa Fe trail in Fort Osage township where he has a splendid farm of 320 acres. Mr. Chiles has bought and sold hundreds of acres of Jackson County farm land during his active years. In 1903, during the great flood Mr. Chiles suffered the loss of 1,200 acres of land which were obliterated by the flood waters of the Missouri River. In February of 1919 he removed to Buckner and purchased a handsome home in the north part of the town.

July 5, 1866, S. H. Chiles was married to Martha Steele Hughes, who was born in 1846 in Gallatin County, Ky., a daughter of William and Martha (Steele) Hughes. This marriage was blessed with ten children: Mrs. Mattie Hifner, near Lees Summit; Neal, a farmer living southeast of Buckner; H. W., deceased; Mrs. Anna Roth, of near Carter, Mo.; Mrs. Mary King, living near Cockrell, Mo.; Mrs. Emily S. Stapp, of Hardin,



Mo.; Mrs. Ruth Van Allen, Cole Camp, Mo.; Carl B., Kansas City, Mo.; Chelsea, Kansas City; James, Sibley, Mo.

Mr. Chiles is a Democrat who has always taken an active part in the affairs of his party in Missouri. From 1896 to 1900 he was marshal of Jackson County. He has served as president of the Farmers Bank of Buckner for several years and was the first president of the Bank of Levasy, Mo.

Since 1872, Mr. Chiles has been a breeder of fox hounds and always has some fine animals at his home and on his place. He is a lover of the chase who has never grown too old to enjoy hunting and chasing the elusive fox.

**Joel Franklin Chiles**, late of Fort Osage township, a successful farmer and stockman, was a member of one of the most prominent pioneer families in Jackson County, members of which have occupied high places in Jackson County for over 80 years. He was born on the old Chiles homestead in Fort Osage township, July 18, 1848 and died Feb. 1, 1915. His father was Joel Franklin Chiles, who settled in Jackson County in 1831, reared a large family and accumulated a considerable estate. A sketch of the father appears in this volume.

Joel F. Chiles was reared to young manhood in Jackson County and received a good education in William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo. He became a farmer like his ancestors for generations and kept alive the traditions of the family by making a success of his life vocation. He farmed on his own account for several years on the Chiles home place in partnership with Caldwell Chiles, and in 1881 he purchased 160 acres of the old Joseph St. Clair farm where his family still resides. This farm was improved with a large brick house which Mr. Chiles remodeled and made into a comfortable and imposing home. He was one of the first breeders of pure bred Galaway cattle in the county and produced this breed of cattle for a number of years. In the course of years of good management, Mr. Chiles increased his acreage to 360 acres, 80 acres of which he later sold. The home farm now consists of 280 acres. In addition to this the Chiles holdings embrace 80 acres in the Buckner bottoms and 236 acres in the Missouri River bottoms, all of which is located in Fort Osage township.

In 1881, Joel Franklin Chiles and Miss Lucy Thornton, a southern lady, were united in marriage. The children born to this marriage are: Elizabeth; P. C. Caldwell; Anna Azuba, born Dec. 31, 1885 and died in 1887; Margaret; Thornton; Franklin; Wallace and Mary Sue. Elizabeth

is a graduate of the Baptist College, Lexington, Mo., married Vernon Mason and resides on the Chiles home place. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Mason, Lucy Vernon, who died in 1916, and Mary Margaret, aged one year. P. Caldwell Chiles was educated at William Jewell College and is living on a part of the old Chiles homestead. He married Olive Harrold, a former teacher, and has one daughter, Lutie Thornton, aged eight years. Mr. Chiles is a Mason. Margaret Chiles is at home with her mother. She attended the Kidd-Kee College, Sherman, Texas. Thornton Chiles is at home. He pursued a course at the Iowa State Agricultural College. He was inducted into the National army in 1918 and trained for six weeks at Camp Funston. Franklin Chiles is at home, studied at the Independence high school. Mary Sue Chiles is a student in the Eastern College, Manassas, Va.

Wallace Chiles, the soldier of the family, was born June 23, 1893, and was educated at Maryville, Tenn., and the State University at Columbia, Mo. He enlisted in the National Army in May, 1917, and was sent to El Paso, Texas, where he became a member of the Medical Corps. He left for overseas services in France, Sept. 9, 1917, and served with Base Hospital Section No. 1, located at St. Nazaire, as first sergeant in charge of a hospital supplies warehouse. He arrived home Sept. 6, 1919. Mr. Chiles is a Mason.

The mother of the foregoing children was born in Woodford County, Ky., April 8, 1857. She is a daughter of James and Sophia Elizabeth (Kidd) Thornton, the former of whom was born on site of Louisville, and the latter in Fayette County. James Thornton was born in 1800 and died in 1871. He was a son of James Thornton, a native of Culpeper County, Va., who became a pioneer settler in Kentucky and owned the site of the city of Louisville. He later settled on Bear Creek in Woodford County, purchasing land from Mr. Bullock. James, the elder, married a Miss Hawkins, whose mother was Sallie Strother, a sister of Susan Strother Taylor, mother of Gen. Zachary Taylor, who became president of the United States. Sophia Elizabeth (Kidd) Thornton was born in 1827 and died in 1895. She was the youngest daughter of Walker and Martha (Price) Kidd, of Caroline County, Va. To James and Sophia Thornton were born three children: Mrs. Z. T. Walker of Versailles, Ky.; J. M. Thornton, who died in Woodford County, Ky., November, 1914; and Mrs. Joel Franklin Chiles, of this review. Mrs. Chiles studied in the Baptist College in Lexington, Ky. Her first visit to Jackson County was in 1880, and she was married the following year.



Mr. Chiles was a Democrat but took little active interest in political matters. His first thought in life was for his wife and family, for whom he cherished the fondest feeling. His next regard was for his church and he was an active church man during his entire matured life. For 35 years he served as clerk of Six Mile Baptist Church and lived his life according to the teachings of his religious belief. He was a man universally respected by all who knew him.

**Alexander Eckles.**—For 66 years Alexander Eckles, of Buckner, Mo., has resided upon his fine farm in Fort Osage township. He was born on this farm, reared there, and has reared his family on the place. William Conner entered the land in the early thirties and four generations of the same family have lived here. It consists of 256 acres, a part of which is the old Conner estate.

Mr. Eckles was born Nov. 15, 1853 and is a son of Robert C. Eckles who was born in Georgetown, Ky., in 1801 and died in Jackson County in 1875. He came to Jackson County in 1832, and in 1852 he married Jane Douglas Conner who was born in Kentucky in 1817 and died in 1872. She was a daughter of Thomas Douglas who came to Jackson County in 1833. She was first married to William Conner who entered the land comprising a part of the Eckles farm. Two children were born to this marriage: William Conner who enlisted in the Confederate army for service in the Civil War at the age of 17 years and died while in the service; Myra died in childhood. Alexander Eckles was the only child of his parents. He was educated in the common schools and William Jewell College and came into possession of the home farm through inheritance from his mother. He resided on the place until 1916 and then went to Buckner where he erected one of the handsomest homes in the town. Although, ostensibly, retired from active farm work Mr. Eckles makes the trip to his farm, practically every day, the shortage of farm labor having been such as to require his assistance during the past few years.

Mr. Eckles was married in 1880 to Miss Susan Hamilton, who was born on an adjoining farm in Jackson County, Feb. 19, 1854. She was a daughter of Christopher and Amanda (Thompson) Hamilton, natives of Kentucky, who were pioneer settlers in Jackson County. Christopher Hamilton was a soldier in the Mexican War, serving in Col. Doniphan's regiment. In 1849 he crossed the plains and mountains to California accompanied by his negro helper and remained for several months. He was a son of Samuel Montgomery Hamilton, a pioneer. Christopher Hamilton died March 6, 1866. Amanda, his wife, was born in 1822 and died in



1902. They had a large family of children, only three of whom are living: Mrs. Susan Eckles; William Hamilton, Buckner, Mo.; Lee, living one mile north of Buckner. One son was born to Alexander and Susan Eckles, Robert Gilbert Eckles, born April 15, 1881, married Nell Parker of Warrensburg, and they have two children: Parker, born Dec. 7, 1907, and Hollis, born Nov. 2, 1910.

Mr. Eckles is a Democrat and is a member of the Baptist church. He is mayor of Buckner having been elected in April, 1919. Since 1877 he has been a member of the Buckner Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is one of the substantial and well respected citizens of Buckner and the vicinity. Mrs. Eckles is a member of the Eastern Star lodge.

**Joseph Augustus Ucker**, late prominent resident of Fort Osage township, who built up a fine farm in the Six Mile neighborhood, was born Aug. 19, 1844 and died Nov. 15, 1910. He was born near Logan, Hocking County, Ohio, and came of a prominent Hocking County family. He was a son of George and Theresa (Koble) Ucker, the former a native of Baden-Baden, Germany and the latter of Alsace-Lorraine. Mr. Ucker was reared in Hocking County, and made his first trip to the west in 1868, locating in Cooper County, Mo., where he remained for two years and came to Jackson County in 1870.

Mr. Ucker was married Nov. 17, 1881, to Sarah Ann Reber, who was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, Oct. 15, 1851, and is a daughter of the late Joseph Reber, a sketch of whom appears in connection with that of Henry Reber. For the first two years of their married life Mr. and Mrs. Ucker resided on a farm near Lees Summit. In 1883 they purchased a farm of S. H. Chiles, the old Jim Chiles home place, a historic farm, which was the rendezvous for Quantrell's gang during the Civil War. In a wooded ravine to the rear of the house relics of the campers have been found. There was fished up from the well on the grounds a rusted saber which had evidently received much hard usage during the war. Mrs. Ucker prizes the saber as a souvenir. The Ucker farm is one of the best in the county. A handsome cottage sets on the bank above the roadway and presents a pleasing appearance. The residence was erected in 1899. Mrs. Ucker has two living children: Mary, the wife of Harmon Lentz, living near Salem, mother of one child, Anna Marie; Sarah Theresa and Rachel Regina died in childhood; Margaret, is at home with her mother.

Mr. Ucker was a Republican and was a member of the Catholic church. He was an industrious, honest, and well meaning citizen who left behind him a reputation for sobriety and good citizenship.

**William Adam Fisher.**—Nearly 86 years ago Adam Fisher, grandfather of William A. Fisher, of Blue township, came to Jackson County and entered the land where his grandson, Wm. A. Fisher, now lives. William A. Fisher was born June 13, 1850 in a house diagonally across the road from his present home.

George Wallace Fisher, his father, was born in Boyle County, Ky., Feb. 22, 1822, and died April 17, 1895. He was a son of Adam Fisher, who first settled in St. Charles County, Mo., in 1833, and one year later came to Jackson County and entered a tract of government land. The wife of Adam Fisher was a Miss Waller, prior to her marriage. To Adam Fisher and wife were born five children: Mrs. Sallie E. Thomas, Mrs. Mary A. Dukes, Jeremiah, who was one of the original "Forty-Niners," John and George Waller.

George W. Fisher married Mary Ellen Crow, who was born 1830 and died May 19, 1863. She was born in Kentucky and was a daughter of Uncle Jake Crow, famous in the early days as an exhorter and a leader among the pioneers, who came to the county in 1834. For a few months, George W. Fisher was enrolled as a soldier in the Mexican War. After beginning his own career he sold his part of the homestead and bought 250 acres and developed it. His children, by his first marriage were as follows: Three died in infancy; William A. of this review; Mrs. Annie E. Crump, deceased; Sallie A., wife of John C. Crenshaw, Blue Springs, Mo.; James Benjamin, living in south Texas; George P. Fisher, Independence, Mo. By his second marriage with Mrs. Elizabeth Lobb, a widow, George W. Fisher was father of one child, Maud, who died at the age of 19 years.

When Order No. 11 was issued in 1863 the Fisher family went to Quincy, Ill. and remained there until 1864, and in the spring of that year they returned to Richmond, Ray County, and resided there until 1865. They then returned to the old home and found things in a deplorable condition. The Fisher farm, and in fact, the entire countryside had reverted to its former primitive condition. Brush and trees had grown up around the house and it was necessary again to clear and break the ground. Mr. Fisher had to cut the brush and sprouts so that the women of his family could get into the house. Wild animals abounded. Foxes and wolves howled around the house at night and prowled practically unmolested in the woods and fields. Prairie chickens were present in countless thousands and William A. Fisher tells of shooting game in the yard of his home.

W. A. Fisher, of this review, bought part of his grandfather's homestead and improved it. He has one of the fine farm residences of Jack-



son County, which sets on a hillside overlooking the Blue Valley. He originally purchased a considerable acreage but has sold some of his land. He has lived on his place near Adams Station since 1895 and formerly owned 103.5 acres but has sold 40 acres.

Mr. Fisher was married in 1874 to Sarah Ann Gibson, who was born in Jackson County, March 5, 1857, a daughter of Silas Harvey and Elizabeth (Slaughter) Gibson, natives of Jackson County. Silas H. Gibson was a son of Joseph Gibson who settled in Jackson County as early as 1834. The children born to W. A. and Sarah Ann Fisher are: Guy H., a farmer living nearby; Crump C., Independence, Mo.; George Frederick, on the adjoining farm; William Virgil, lives in Oregon; Mrs. Lucy Ethel Cook, on an adjoining farm; Mrs. Marcia N. Alleman, Independence, Mo.; Earl W., lives on the Spring Branch road; Vern P., is in the employ of the county and makes his home with his father. Mr. Fisher has ten grandchildren: Guy H. Fisher has one child, Fields; Crump C., has two children, George and William; George Frederick has five children, Madge, Mildred, Fred, Elizabeth and Roger; Mrs. Lucy Cook has two children, William Fisher and Helen Cook.

Mr. Fisher is a Democrat. He is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and is a Mason. He is also a member of the Modern Brotherhood.

**Joseph E. Jones**, a farmer and orchardist, of Fort Osage township, was born and reared in the Six Mile country and has lived all of his life in the neighborhood. Mr. Jones is owner of a valuable farm of 160 acres upon which he has resided since 1900. He has improved this place with a nine room modern residence which stands near a large grove of maples. The Jones orchard covering 12 acres was planted 15 years ago and has given a yield of over 3,000 bushels this year (1919) which has been sold at prices ranging from \$1.00 to \$1.65 per bushel in the orchard.

J. E. Jones was born Jan. 13, 1863 and is a son of J. E. and Lockety (Wheeler) Jones, both of whom were natives of Kentucky, and came to this county in 1844. J. E. Jones, the father, was born in 1821 and died in 1899. Mrs. Lockety Jones was born in 1825 and died in 1886. They reared a family of seven children: Rev. A. T., a Baptist minister, died in 1918; Asa, lives in Carroll County, Mo.; Rev. Robert H. a Baptist minister in Texas; Mrs. Mildred Charlton, living in Fort Osage township; George W., living on a farm two miles north; Joseph E., of this sketch; and Rufus, lives in Washington.

When 18 years old, Mr. Jones began working at farm labor. For



over 20 years he was engaged in the bee business and had a fine apiary. His first home, after his marriage in 1889, was in Buckner. In 1894 he rented a farm four miles east of his present place and lived on rented land for five years prior to purchasing his present farm. He disposed of his apiary in 1909.

Mr. Jones was married in 1889 to Miss Lulu Johnston who was born in 1864, on a farm, three miles northeast of Independence. She is a daughter of William L. and Eliza Ann (Dixon) Johnston, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia. William L. Johnston came to Jackson County when a young man and was married here. He was father of 11 children, 10 of whom are living: Oliver M., deceased; Rev. Matthew T., a Baptist minister in Texas; Adelina, widow of James R. Chiles, living near Buckner; Mrs. Hattie E. Peace, near Blue Mills; William E., lives in Colorado; David F., lives near Denver; Mrs. Josie Gallagher, Hereford, Texas; Mrs. Lulu Jones of this review; Edwin L., of San Luis Obispo, Calif., and Edgard, living in Nevada.

The children born to J. E. and Lulu Jones are as follows: Myrtle, wife of Clarence Winfrey, living three miles northeast of the Jones place, has four children, John William, Glenn Jones, Joseph Vernon, Lulu Majorie; Luella, wife of Frank B. Hock, living near Buckner; Annabel is at home with her parents.

Mr. Jones is a Democrat. He is a member of the district school board and has charge of the erection of the new school house in the district. He is a member of the Brotherhood of American Yeoman and is a Baptist. For the past six years he has served as clerk of the Six Mile Baptist church.

**David Richard Owings**, retired farmer, Oak Grove, has spent 70 years of his life in Jackson County, where he was born April 3, 1849. He has participated in the making of a great county, has reared a fine family of sons and daughters and is now living comfortably in his pretty cottage home in Oak Grove. He is a son of Joshua and Martha Elizabeth (George) Owings who were among the first pioneers of this section of Missouri.

Joshua Owings was born in Kentucky, June 8, 1820 and died Nov. 26, 1879. He came to Jackson County when a young man and was married in 1847 to Martha Elizabeth George, born in Tennessee Sept. 13, 1829. She is a daughter of David George who settled in Jackson County in the early thirties. Mrs. Owings celebrated her ninetieth birthday anniversary last September and ranks among the oldest of the pioneer women of Jackson County, if not the very oldest. Joshua Owings was



D. R. OWINGS AND WIFE.





twice married. By his first marriage there were two children: Andrew P., deceased, and a daughter who died in infancy. By the second marriage there were nine children of whom David R., the subject of this sketch was the oldest; Marion Francis lives southwest of Oak Grove; Nathan Benjamin, north of Oak Grove; John Hicks, east of Oak Grove; Amanda Geneva, deceased; Mrs. Melissa Gibson, Lafayette County; Levi, northwest of Oak Grove; Dudley D., Lafayette County; Mrs. Nancy Latimer, Portland, Ore.

When Mr. Owings was married in 1869, he and Mrs. Owings received 40 acres of bottom land from Mrs. Owings' father. This they sold and then purchased 40 acres of upland and moved there in 1874, improved it and made a comfortable and productive place which served as their home until Sept. 1, 1902 when they removed to Oak Grove. The Owings farm embraces 140 acres of well improved and valuable land northwest of Oak Grove.

Dec. 21, 1869, Mr. Owings was married to Mary Melissa Nickels, who was born May 10, 1852, in Franklin County, Ky., a daughter of James and Ruanna (Graves) Nickels, who came to Missouri and located in Nodaway County in 1852. Just after the close of the Civil War they came to Jackson County and settled here in 1867. The Nickels farm was located three miles southwest of Oak Grove, in Sniabar township. James Nickels was born Nov. 21, 1816 and died Dec. 2, 1889. His wife was born April 19, 1822 and died April 22, 1895. The Nickels children are as follows: Robert, Cass County, Neb.; Elizabeth Frances, deceased; William, Cass County, Neb.; Emily Jane, deceased; Uriah, deceased; Martha Salome, deceased; Mrs. Mary Melissa Owings, of this review; Otis, Independence, Mo.; Mrs. Henrietta Simpson, Salsalito, Cal.; Mrs. Arvilla Ruanna Neal, Kansas City, Mo.

The children born to D. R. and Mary Melissa Owings are: James Joshua, born Aug. 5, 1871, lives on the Owings home place; Carrie Emma Peerson, born Oct. 31, 1874, resides southeast of Oak Grove; Mrs. Martha Geneva Williams was born June 12, 1877 and died Oct. 18, 1900; Mrs. Lucy Belle Starns, born April 18, 1879, lives at Oak Grove; John William, born May 30, 1882, lives seven miles south; Dudley Leroy, born Feb. 24, 1886, Coffeyville, Kan.; Mrs. Ethel Ruanna Barnes, born Dec. 16, 1888, lives on a farm four and a half miles south. Mr. and Mrs. Owings have 14 grandchildren and two great grandchildren. On Dec. 21, 1919, this estimable couple celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding.

Mr. Owings is a Democrat. He and Mrs. Owings are members of the Primitive Baptist church. They are pleasant, agreeable, well informed people who have done well their part in the making Jackson County what it is today.

**Joel Rufus Hudspeth**, late substantial farmer and stockman, of Fort Osage township, Confederate veteran, and pioneer citizen of Jackson County, was born Nov. 21, 1839 in Fort Osage township and departed this life in 1895. He was a son of Joseph and Amanda Hudspeth, both natives of Kentucky. Joseph W. Hudspeth was a son of William Hudspeth who came to Jackson County on his first trip in 1826. In 1828 he removed his family to this county and became one of its most prominent citizens in the early development of the county. By a first marriage, Joseph W. Hudspeth was father of three children: Mrs. Amanda Elvira Jacobs, deceased; Joel Rufus, of this review; William Napoleon, deceased. The second wife of Joseph W. Hudspeth was Mrs. Lou (Rice) Brown, who bore him one child, J. Lamartine, deceased.

During the Civil War, Mr. Hudspeth joined the forces of General Joe Shelby and served for four years. He took part in the battles of Prairie Grove, Helena, Little Rock, Lone Jack and was with General Price on his raid through Missouri in 1863, fighting at Lexington, West Port, Pea Ridge and other engagements during Price's retreat to the south. He returned home after the close of the war.

Aug. 15, 1866, Mr. Hudspeth was married to Miss Sarah Franklin, who was born in Jackson County, Dec. 24, 1846. She is a daughter of Benjamin (born 1825, died 1848) and Mary Ann (Rice) Franklin (born 1825, died 1853). Benjamin Franklin was a son of Louis Franklin, a native of North Carolina, who was a pioneer of Jackson County. The first wife of Benjamin Franklin was Jane Horn who bore him one child. James F. Franklin, now deceased, and whose widow, Mrs. Virginia Lee Franklin, lives in Independence. The Hudspeth homestead is now owned by Mrs. Sarah Hudspeth and her children and it was upon this large farm that Joel F. Hudspeth settled. He built a house of eight rooms of oak lumber taken from his own land. This residence was erected in 1868 and is in good preservation. The farm consists of 400 acres and is one of the best in Jackson County.

The children born to Joel Rufus and Sarah A. Hudspeth are as follows: Joseph, Mary, Elvira, Charles Rice. Joseph resides in Washington. He married Bertha Gallagher and has two children: Mrs. Mary Belle Swartz, mother of three children, Frances M., Joseph and Sarah;



and Rufus who served in the National army in France during the World War. Mary is the wife of Robert Elsea, Lake City, and has three sons: Robert, Charles Joseph and James Rufus. Elvira is the wife of Franklin P. Chiles, and is mother of five children: Richard Hudspeth, who served in the National army in the tank corps; Sarah; Frank Perrin; Henry Clay and Annabel. Charles Rice Hudspeth of Fort Osage township, married Mary Boston of Kentucky and has two children, Henrietta and Frances.

Further information concerning the genealogy of the Hudspeth family of Jackson County is given in this volume in the sketch of Thomas B. Hudspeth. The family is descended from old Colonial and Revolutionary stock and is one of the oldest and most prominent of Jackson County. Joel Rufus Hudspeth was a true representative of this family and kept alive its traditions for industry, financial ability, honesty and steadfastness to principle. He was a Democrat who took a keen interest in political matters and was influential in county affairs. He had many warm and steadfast friends and was well liked and respected by all who knew him. Mrs. Hudspeth, affectionately known as "Cousin Sallie" is a member of the Baptist church. Her grandfather, Rev. Louis Franklin, was one of the first Baptist preachers in this part of Missouri and he preached for a number of years for the Six Mile Baptist church and was pastor of the Independence and Blue Springs Baptist church, establishing several churches in this section of Missouri.

**Henry Stock**, prosperous farmer and stockman, is owner of 80 acres of rich bottom land in Fort Osage township, near the town of Levasy, which he purchased in 1887, and improved into a valuable piece of property. He was born Oct. 28, 1859, in Warren County, and is a son of Frederick and Louisa (Fosse) Stock, a sketch of whose lives is given in connection with the sketch of Samuel H. Stock in this volume.

Mr. Stock was reared in Warren County and came to Jackson County in the spring of 1884. Everything which he owns has been earned since coming to this county. He purchased his farm in 1887, an unimproved place. In the course of time, Mr. Stock erected a good house and developed one of the best farms in Jackson County which produces large crops each year. Of late years, he has been living in Levasy and has turned over the cultivation of the farm to his nephew.

Mr. Stock was married in September, 1884, to Miss Mary Schaberg, who was born in Warren County in 1860, a daughter of John and Lucetta (Dreimeyer) Schaberg. John Schaberg was born in St. Charles County, Mo., in 1835, and died in 1910. Lucetta, his wife, was born in 1839 and



died in 1908. The Schabergs came to Jackson County in 1884 and settled in the Levasy neighborhood.

John and Lucetta Schaberg were the parents of the following children: John, deceased; Mary Stock, of this review; William and Garrett, deceased; Laura, wife of Samuel H. Stock; Mrs. Elizabeth Schroer, whose husband is proprietor of the Levasy garage; Herman, lives in Oklahoma; George, deceased; Walter, North Dakota; Polly, deceased; Caroline, wife of T. Hall, of Sibley, Mo.

No children have been born to Henry and Mary Stock, but they have reared a nephew, Samuel Meinershagen, a son of Minnie M. Meinershagen. He was born in 1892 and is now managing the Henry Stock farm. He was married in April, 1914, to Miss Verna Heimann, who was born in St. Charles County in 1894, a daughter of William and Adelia (Siefker) Heimann, who now reside in Cooper County, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Meinershagen have two children, Dorothy, born Sept. 21, 1915; and Herman, born Oct. 2, 1918.

Mr. Stock is a Republican. He and Mrs. Stock are members of the Levasy Evangelical church.

**Henry C. Gausman**, prosperous farmer and stockman, of the Levasy neighborhood in Fort Osage township, is the owner of 246 acres of land in two farms. One hundred and thirty acres are comprised in his home place, and he owns a fine farm of 116 acres, a mile or so west in the same township. This land is practically all Missouri River bottom land and is highly productive. Mr. Gausman maintains a herd of Durham cattle, headed by a pure bred bull.

H. C. Gausman was born Dec. 6, 1871 in Femme Osage township, St. Charles County, Mo., and is a son of Charles and Mary (Schemmer) Gausman both of whom were born and reared in St. Charles County, the children of pioneer German settlers in that county. Charles Gausman was born in 1845 and died in 1918. He was a son of Stephen Gausman who emigrated from Germany and settled in St. Charles County. Mrs. Mary Gausman was born in 1851 and now makes her home with William Finkelmeyer in Levasy.

The Gausmans moved from St. Charles County to Lafayette County in 1882. H. C. Gausman was reared to manhood in that county and in 1899, he came to Levasy, Jackson County and was employed on the farm of Mr. Dieckman. He was next in the employ of Herman Schaberg. Soon he began renting the place where he is now living. In 1917, he purchased

his first farm and has had a very successful career. He is an industrious and enterprising agriculturist and is known as a good business man.

Mr. Gausman was married in 1902 to Paullina Dieckmann, born in St. Charles County, a daughter of the late Florenz Dieckmann, an account of whose life and career will be found in the sketch of T. W. F. Dieckmann in this volume. Three children have been born to this marriage: Adaline,, Lydia and Freda.

Mr. Gausman is a Republican and is a member of the Levasy Evangelical church. He is a director of the Bank of Levasy and is one of the leading citizens of the Levasy neighborhood.

**Charles R. Harris.**—For a half century and more, Charles R. Harris has resided upon his fine farm in Fort Osage township. He was born June 2, 1840 in Montgomery County, Ky., and is a son of James William and Lucy Ann (Jones) Harris, both natives of Kentucky. James W. Harris was a son of Alexius Harris, a native of Culpeper County, Va., and a Kentucky pioneer. James W. Harris came to Jackson County in 1865 and remained one and a half years and then returned to Kentucky. After another trip to this county he again went back to Kentucky and in the fall of 1868 he came and located permanently. James W. Harris died here in 1876.

Charles R. Harris came to this county in 1869 and bought 80 acres of land, only four acres of which was in cultivation, the rest being covered with timber and brush. He paid or agreed to pay \$1,000 for his first '80' and borrowed \$730. For 40 years Mr. Harris paid interest, cleared his land during his first few years erected a comfortable home, increased his acreage to 160 acres and reared a large family of ten children.

Mr. Harris was married Nov. 13, 1873 to Harriet Duffield, who was born April 9, 1853 in Pickaway County, Ohio. She is a daughter of Thomas and Carlotta (Rapley) Duffield, natives of England, who came from Ohio to Jackson County in 1869 and here lived the remainder of their days.

The ten living children born to Charles R. and Harriet Harris are: Thomas, James W., Livona Jane, George Washington, Oliver D., Mary Lee, Luther C., Bernice, Grace, Raymond, Charles Bryan. Thomas D. resides four miles south of Buckner. He married Lee Edwards deceased, and has two children, Livona Elizabeth, or Beth, and Anna June. James W. is at home, managing the home place. Livona is the widow of John R. Brannan. George Washington lives in Independence. He married Emma J. Necessary and has three children, Rosa Ellen, Tressa and Milton Luther.



Oliver D. married Leila Robertson and has two children, Bernice and Emelina. He resides at Delta, Colo. Mrs. Mary Lee Witt has three children, Livona, Harry Charles and Helen Roberta. Luther C. married Beulah Long and has one child, Myrtle. Mrs. Bernice Weatherford has one child, Harriet Elizabeth. Mrs. Grace Wyatt has three children, Fred Harris, Evangeline and Woodrow Wilson. She lives near Mecklin, Mo. Raymond lives near Lake City. Charles Bryan died at the age of seven years.

Mr. Harris is a Democrat. Mrs. Harris and several of the children are members of the Baptist church.

**Henry Stephens**, late prominent citizen of Lake City, Fort Osage township, was a successful man. He began his career as a farmer and stock raiser with little or no capital and achieved a more than ordinary success in two states: At the time of his death he was one of the best known stockmen in the territory contiguous to Kansas City, and was a member of the Board of Trade of the city. Mr. Stephens was born near Coleburg, Prussia, Feb. 10, 1851, and died at his home in Jackson County, Sept. 9, 1913. He was a son of Henry Stephens who died in 1854. His mother, Mary (Neufeldt) Stephens and his stepfather, Godfrey H. Hobus, came to America in 1860, and he was reared at Laporte, Ind., and in 1868 located in Illinois. In January, 1872, he came West and located in Marion County, Kan., when land was cheap and that section of Kansas was in the infancy of its development. In 1871 he had purchased 160 acres of land from the Santa Fe Railroad Company at a cost of \$4.65 an acre and began farming and raising live stock. He added and bought more land until he owned 2,560 acres in Marion County. He located in Peabody, Kan. and engaged in live stock feeding on a very extensive scale. Being desirous of extending his operations which had now become of large proportions, he came to Jackson County in 1902 and purchased 240 acres at Lake City, upon which he erected large feeding sheds, a mill and a large store house where he continued his cattle feeding operations in addition to caring for his large interests at Peabody, Kan. He built a splendid residence for his family and his success continued. Mr. Stephens fed and marketed over 2,000 head of cattle yearly on his place, adjoining Peabody where he had feeding lots and fed and marketed several hundred head from his plant at Lake City.

Mr. Stephens was married Sept. 25, 1881, in Danforth, Ill., to Miss Louisa Merkle, who was born March 9, 1861 near Peoria, Ill. She is a daughter of Christian and Helena (Tascher) Merkle, the former a native of Wittenburg, and the latter of Baden, Germany. Christian Merkle was



born Dec. 21, 1826 and was one of five sons and three daughters: Frank, George, Joseph, Christian, John, Barbara, Philona, Catherine and Mary. He was well educated in his native land and served in the German army in the suppression of the revolution in 1848. In 1854 he immigrated to America, arriving in Philadelphia in May of that year. After a four months stay in Cincinnati, Ohio, he went to Wabash, Ind., thence to St. Louis and then to Peoria, Ill., where he was employed in a brewery. In June, 1859, he was married to Helena Tascher who came to the United States from Germany when 16 years old. For some years Mr. Merkle had the contract for carrying the mail from Havana to Cuba, Ill. In 1862 he located in Iroquois County and settled in Danforth township where he bought 80 acres of prairie land. Succeeding years saw him very successful in his farming operations. He reared a family as follows: John, a farmer in Iroquois County.; George lives in Indiana; Andrew and Charles living in Illinois; Christian lives in Iroquois County; Emma Helena, Iroquois County; Caroline, died May 19, 1908. Christian Merkle died Jan. 10, 1910. Mrs. Merkle died June 18, 1918.

The children born to Henry and Louisa Stephens are: Emma, Charles, William Henry, Grace Helena, George H., Louisa, Jr., John H. and Carrie. Emma is the wife of Merton Smith, living south of Lake City and is mother of four children; Louisa Eglantine, Henry Stephens, Merton Leon and Merkle C. Henry Charles married Julia Baird and has two children: H. Charles, Jr., and Alice Louise. He resides at Whitewater, Kan.

William Henry lives on a farm near Whitewater, Kan. He married Anna Frude and has three children: William H., Jr., Hadley Woodrow and Edith Marie. Grace Helena, George H., Louisa, Jr., and John H. are at home with their mother. Carrie died in infancy.

Mr. Stephens was an independent Democrat. During the last five years of his life he was a member of the Kansas City Board of Trade.

**Elwin S. Pemberton**, of Fort Osage township, is rearing one of the largest families in Jackson County. It is evident that rearing his 11 children has not proven a handicap to Mr. Pemberton's success as an agriculturist and stock raiser, inasmuch as he has met with prosperity in his career. He is the owner of a fine farm of 165 acres, which is improved with a good brick residence, erected by his father, Thomas C. Pemberton, in 1889, and a splendid bank barn, with concrete basement, and weatherboarded with native walnut.

Elwin S. Pemberton was born Dec. 28, 1869, on what is now known

as the Eckles farm. Two years after his birth his parents moved to the Pemberton homestead, south of Sibley, which Thomas C. Pemberton developed into one of the finest farms in the county, while also plying his trade of bricklayer and mason. Thomas C. Pemberton, father of E. S. Pemberton, was a native of Kentucky, who came to Jackson County in 1850. A sketch of Thomas C. Pemberton appears in this volume.

E. S. Pemberton received his education in the district school at Sibley. When 25 years of age he settled upon a small farm west of his present place. He sold his first tract in 1906 and bought his present farm from the estate of Aunt Amanda Hamilton. He paid \$52 an acre for his land, which is now easily worth \$200 an acre.

Mr. Pemberton was married in 1895 to Miss Emma Triplett, a daughter of Eli Triplett, an account of whose life is given in connection with the sketch of Daniel F. Triplett, of Fort Osage township. To this marriage 13 children have been born, as follow: Esther, Lola, deceased, Gladys, Annie, Arlie, Clay, Herbert, Stanley, deceased, Thomas, William, deceased, Ralph, Emma Belle, Kinslow. All of the ten living children are at home, and a happier family does not exist in Jackson County.

While Mr. Pemberton is a Democrat, he has no time to bother with political matters. He is strictly a home and family man, whose sole thought is for the education and training of his children and their future.

**John L. Hiffner**, farmer and stockman, proprietor of 126 acres of valuable farm land, within one and a half miles of Blue Springs, in Snobar township, was born Dec. 24, 1888 on the place which he now owns. He is a son of the late John L. Hiffner, a Missouri pioneer.

John L. Hiffner, the elder, was born in Jessamine County, near Louisville, Ky., March 9, 1830 and died at his home in Jackson County, Sept. 29, 1915. When a boy he chopped wood for 25 cents a cord, earning in all \$35 a year. This money he dutifully turned over to his mother. He was a good worker, so good, that his energy excited the admiration of his uncle for whom he worked. His uncle offered to bet his best team and wagon that John Hiffner could do more work in a day than any other workman in the neighborhood. A match was arranged. Young John ate a light breakfast and told his aunt, "I am going to lead the field today." And he did lead the field. He broke 426 pounds of hemp, a tremendous day's work, leading his nearest strong competitor by 12 pounds. Mr. Hiffner came to Missouri in 1851 and engaged in buying mules for a Rando'ph County stockman. He made several trips to Louisiana and brought back as many as 175 mules on his trips. He was adventurous







JOHN L. HIFFNER, SR., AND WIFE.



JOHN L. HIEFNER AND FAMILY.





and made trips to the great West, mining gold in the Rocky Mountains and British America. He resided for eight years in Richmond, Mo. and served as sheriff of the county. Upon his return from the west he settled on a farm near Atherton, Mo. He next settled on the place now owned by Sater Necessary northeast of Independence. In 1888 he purchased the Hiffner home place near Blue Springs and improved a splendid farm property.

During the Civil War, Mr. Hiffner served under Gen. Joe Shelby, fighting throughout the war in General Price's various campaigns. He was always a lover of horses and was a noted horseman. He opened the first gold mine in the Silver Plume region of Colorado, and built the first brick house erected in the city of Denver.

Mr. Hiffner, Sr., was married in 1876 to Margaret Giffin, who was born in Ross County, Ohio, Oct. 24, 1856, on a farm located near the town of Bainbridge. She is a daughter of Tilbury and Nancy (Rhodes) Giffin, both of whom were born and reared in Ohio. In the fall of 1870, the Giffin family came to Jackson County, and located on a farm near Adam's Station, where Mr. Giffin operated a farm for Peter Adams until 1875. He then lived on a farm near Atherton for five years. In 1880 he located on a farm one and a half miles west of Atherton, where he lived until 1885. He then purchased a farm near Atherton. Tilbury Giffin was born in 1824, and died in 1884. Mrs. Giffin was born in 1836, and died in 1906. Their children are as follows: Emma, deceased; James, Miami, Okla.; Margaret Hiffner; Mrs. Mattie Griggsby, Parker, Kan.; Mrs. Kittie Shinegar, St. Joseph, Mo.; Claude, near Atherton; Mrs. Fanny Paxton, Atherton, Mo.

The children born to John L. and Margaret (Giffin) Hiffner are as follows: Mrs. Effie Chancellor, born June 25, 1878, married H. G. Green, Independence; Cordelia Green, born April 11, 1880, died in infancy; Lola Lee, born June 9, 1882, married Frank Carbrough, and resides in Idaho; Nancy G., born Feb. 13, 1886, married E. J. Tatum, Independence; John L., Jr., of this review; Mary Ruth, born Dec. 20, 1894, married H. C. Park, and lives in Illinois. Mrs. Margaret Hiffner resides with her son on the home place.

John L. Hiffner, the elder, was a well read man, and took a keen interest in every day affairs. He was a Democrat, who was influential in the affairs of his party. He was a member of the Masons and the Knights of Pythias. He was progressive in thought and deed and was never known

to hark back to the old times as having been the best. He always asserted that the present times were the best for all concerned.

John L. Hiffner, the younger, was educated in the Blue Springs public schools, and has spent all of his life upon the Hiffner farm. He came into possession of the farm through inheritance, and purchase of the interests of the heirs, and is considered to be one of the best farmers in his neighborhood.

He was married March 18, 1912, to Miss Mayme Quinn, a daughter of John W. Quinn, merchant of Blue Springs, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Hiffner have one child, Marjorie, born Sept. 19, 1917. Mr. Hiffner is a Democrat. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias of Blue Springs, and is a Shriner and Thirty-second degree Mason.

**Frank B. Hock**, one of the younger and progressive farmers and stockraisers of Fort Osage township, owner of 80 acres of well improved land on the Lexington road just west of Buckner, was born in Buckner, Dec. 17, 1887.

Joseph H. Hock, his father, was born in Kentucky, May 11, 1849 and died at his home in Jackson County, Dec. 4, 1914. He left his home in Kentucky and came to Jackson County in 1869. His father, Joseph H. Hock came sometime later and spent his last days in this county. Joseph H. Hock was married here to Miss Martha Ann Minter, who was born in Platte County, Mo., July 31, 1849 and died Nov. 8, 1916. They were united in marriage Oct. 20, 1872, and reared children as follows: George H. died in infancy; William C., an attorney in Kansas City; Robert Lee, Kansas City; Annie E., died at the age of four years; Earl Joshua died at the age of 18 years; Frank B., of this review.

Joseph H. Hock followed farming during his entire active life. In 1891 he located on the Perrin Farm in Fort Osage township. In 1899 he purchased the farm where his son, Frank B., now lives, and made improvements which have since been remodeled by his son, who has modernized the residence. Joseph H. Hock and wife were members of the Baptist church. Martha Ann (Minter) Hock was a daughter of John and Anne R. (Cooper) Minter, of Virginia.

Frank B. Hock was educated in the Buckner High School, and cared for his father and mother during their last years. He was married Sept. 19, 1917, to Miss Luella W. Jones, a daughter of Joseph E. Jones, a sketch of whom appears in this volume.

In addition to his farm of 80 acres, Mr. Hock is renting considerable land. During the present year, 1919, he harvested 70 acres of corn, which



gave a good yield, and he plans to plant 100 acres in 1920. He has sown 70 acres of wheat for the harvest of 1920. For some years he has been a breeder of pure-bred Duroc-Jersey hogs, and raises and feeds 100 head yearly. Mr. Hock, although a Democrat, is inclined to be independent, and casts his vote accordingly. Mrs. Hock is a member of the Buckner Baptist Church. He is prominent in Masonic circles, and is a past master of the Masons, Lodge No. 501, of Buckner, serving as worshipful master of this lodge in 1913.

**Thomas W. Webb**, one of the best known farmers of Fort Osage township, is a member of one of the old pioneer families of Jackson County. He was born July 27, 1862 in Jackson County and is a son of Hewitt Preston Webb, who was born and reared in West Virginia.

Hewitt Preston Webb was born in 1838 and died Jan. 30, 1899. He was a son of Asa Webb, one of the first pioneers of Jackson County who entered land in the county and came here in 1844. H. P. Webb was reared to manhood in this county and served for four years in the Confederate army during the Civil War. At that time he owned a farm at Lone Jack. For a time during the war he was a member of Quantrell's band. At the battle of Lexington he was one of the men who advised General Price that the position of the Federal troops could not be taken by storming the heights around the city which were fortified and defended with cannon. He, with others, advised the general to execute a flanking movement, inasmuch as a direct assault upon the city would result in disaster. Quantrell was the leader of the dissatisfied element, and, because General Price refused to follow the advice given him by Mr. Webb and others Quantrell and his followers withdrew from Price's command. History records the fact that they were right and the Battle of Lexington was lost to the Confederates. Mr. Webb was not a regular follower of Quantrell, however, as he followed in due time the regularly waged warfare of the Confederate army. Before the war he sold his farm of 40 acres at Lone Jack and located in Fort Osage township. Raiders from across the border burned his home and run off all of his live stock. After the war he bought 40 acres in Fort Osage township of Silas Hudspeth and then bought 40 acres more from the Skinner heirs. He rented 440 acres in 1866 on the Hudspeth place and four years later moved to his home place. This farm was his home until his death.

Hewitt Preston was married at Lone Jack, Mo., in 1852, to Mary Perry, who was born March 17, 1835, in Brown County, Ill., a daughter of John and Permelia (Bridges) Perry, who removed to Jackson County in



1838 and settled near Lone Jack. The children born to this marriage are: Permelia Elizabeth, wife of Lon Landers, living on the Webb home place; Mary Ann, wife of Frank Hurst, Mount Washington, mother of seven children; Thomas Winfrey of this review, has five children; William Preston, Louisville, Kan., has four children; John Coleman, deceased; Zapora Ella, wife of William Lease, Kansas City, has six children; Robert Lee, Holton, Kan., has three children; Benjamin, Franklin, Kan., has four children; Lulu Dell Slotz, deceased; Mattie Belle, wife of Jeff Duncan, Independence, has seven children; Mrs. Ida May Johnson, Wamego, Kan.; Henry Clay Webb, lives near the county farm. Mrs. Webb has 38 grandchildren and has 25 great grandchildren and has the distinction of being one of the oldest pioneer women of Jackson County.

Thomas W. Webb was reared in the log house erected by his father in Fort Osage township. After his marriage he erected his present home on the Lexington road. He first purchased 40 acres from the home place and has made subsequent additions to his acreage until he owns 160 acres.

Mr. Webb was married in September, 1883, to Miss Barbara Leap, who was born in Indiana, a daughter of Perry Leap. Six children have been born to this union, as follows: Grover Cleveland Webb, Kansas City, Kan.; Martha Lethe, wife of Guy Frazier, Galveston, Texas; Oliver Preston, on the home place; Claude Thomas, deceased, his remains buried in Salem churchyard; Charles Franklin, at home; and Mattie Belle, aged two years.

The Democratic party has always had the support of Mr. Webb, who is one of the best known citizens of his neighborhood. He is a member of the Woodmen Lodge.

**Thomas H. Lentz.**—The oldest established registered pure bred herd of Herefords in Jackson County is owned by Thomas H. Lentz of Fort Osage township. The Lentz herd of Herefords was established in April, 1884, by Noah Lentz, father of Thomas H. Lentz. The herd usually numbers 30 head, every one of which is a purebred. Mr. Lentz sells his stock at private sale to buyers coming to purchase stock from all parts of the United States. The Lentz farm consists of 200 acres upon which the elder Lentz settled after coming to Jackson County.

Noah Lentz was born in Rockingham County, Va., in April, 1841 and died March 5, 1916 in his 75th year. He was a son of John W. Lentz, a native of Germany who was brought to America by his parents who settled in Virginia, where he was reared. Upon attaining his majority he

removed to Ohio where he resided until 1866 when he came to Jackson County, and spent the remainder of his days.

Noah Lentz, although a Union sympathizer was drafted into the Confederate army in Virginia and was in the army of General Lee. He deserted and was held prisoner after his capture. His desertion being caused by a desire to visit his mother and his brother who were sick. Overstaying his leave of absence, he was placed in the guard house and while being held a prisoner he overheard some of the Confederate officers talking of plans and learned that the war would end in a few weeks if the Union army would do certain things. He made his escape, divulged his information to the Federal commanders and the war was ended in four weeks.

When Noah Lentz landed at Napoleon, Lafayette County, Mo., he had just \$7.00 and a sick wife to care for. He was without suitable clothing and was forced to go barefooted in the dead of winter. He got a job of cutting cord wood at \$7.00 per month. By hard work, good management, close application to business and self denial he was enabled in the course of time to purchase 200 acres of land. When he established his Hereford herd in 1884 he was in debt \$8,000, but he had faith in the demand for a better breed of cattle on the Missouri farms than the stockmen had been raising. His faith was justified, for the Lentz herd has brought prosperity to him and his descendants. He was one of the largest hog producers in the county. He became the owner of 1,856 acres.

Noah Lentz was three times married. Mrs. Lou (Kirby) Lentz, wife of the late Noah Lentz, was born May 8, 1856 in Tennessee and died March 29, 1916. She was a daughter of James Kirby, who came to Jackson County at the close of the Civil War. The children born to this marriage were James Oliver died in infancy; Myrtle Anna wife of William Baldus, Independence; Thomas H. Lentz of this review. His second wife was Eliza Lewis, who bore him three children: James, deceased; John W., Colorado; and Joseph Harmon who lives near Salem church in Blue township. The first wife of Noah Lentz was Katie Webb who died 18 months after their marriage. Thomas H. Lentz was educated in Woodland College, and Baker University, Baldwin, Kan., where he graduated in 1914 with the degrees of A. B. and A. M. and where he also completed a business course. For eight months after leaving college he was employed as traveling salesman. He then returned to the farm. The herd of Herefords having been divided among the children, each child receiving six head, Thomas H. Lentz purchased the entire remaining cattle from his father and some of



those given to the other children. Like his father, he attributes his material success to the prestige of the Lentz Herefords.

Mr. Lentz was married June 5, 1912 to Miss Myrtle Hersh, of Kansas City. She was born in Iowa, a daughter of Edwin H. and Mary E. Hersh, the former living at Blue Springs, and the latter having died in March, 1919. To this marriage has been born one child, Thomas R. Lentz, born June 19, 1916.

Mr. Lentz is independent in his political views. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and holds a membership in the American Hereford Breeders' Association.

**Thomas D. Winfrey**, of Fort Osage township, who owns a valuable farm of 160 acres in this township, located on the old Santa Fe trail highway. Mr. Winfrey first bought 120 acres in 1893; he next bought 40 acres in 1914. Every rod of fence, every tree and shrub on the place, the fine residence, every barn and outbuilding, has been erected by the owner. When Mr. Winfrey came to Jackson County from southern Missouri, his total possessions amounted to about \$1,600, including his household furniture, livestock, and farming implements. He purchased his first 120 acres for \$5,000, and went in debt to the amount of \$2,900, in 1896. His last purchase of land cost him \$170 an acre. The Winfrey land is very productive and the soil fertility has been carefully conserved. Seventy acres of wheat harvested in 1919 produced 1,575 bushels. Of late years Mr. Winfrey has relaxed from active farm work, and rents out his land.

Thomas D. Winfred was born in Dallas County, Missouri, Jan. 20, 1850. He is a son of Elisha and Margaret (Brown) Winfrey, further mention of whom is made in this volume. Thomas D. Winfrey was partly reared in Dallas County, and accompanied the family to Laclede County upon their removal there. He desired above all things to take an active part in the conflict between the North and the South, but stern measures on the part of his parents prevented him from doing as he wished. After his marriage, in 1876, he resided on a farm in Laclede County until his subsequent removal to Jackson County.

Feb. 18, 1876, Mr. Winfred was married to Miss Elizabeth Tennyson, who was born in Laclede County, Sept. 23, 1854, a daughter of Joseph and Elvira (Cooper) Stokes, both natives of Crawford County, Missouri. The children born to this union are: Charles Marion, a farmer and owner of 400 acres of land in Fort Osage township; William Everett, a farmer living east of Six Mile Church; Lulu, at home; J. Frank, a farmer living near Lake City; Lenora, a teacher in the Kalispel, Mont., High School,



was educated in the State Normal School at Warrensburg, and the State University at Columbia, and has taken post-graduate courses at the University of Michigan and the Chicago University.

Mr. Winfrey is a Democrat. He is a member of the Six Mile Baptist Church, and liberally contributed toward the building of this church. He is one of the best and most substantial citizens of Jackson County.

**Mary J. Switzer.**—During the years in which she was employed in the office of Walter L. Yost, at the stockyards of Kansas City, Mary J. Switzer dreamed of the time when she would own her own farm, raise fine livestock and cultivate land as it should be cultivated. She studied the science of raising fine livestock and of intensive scientific agriculture for years before her opportunity came to purchase a place in which she could indulge her lifetime ambition. "Early Dawn Farm," a beautiful country place south of Independence, in Brooking township, on the Lees Summit rock road, is the result. This farm consists of 130 acres, and is a delight to the eye. This place was an old rundown farm, which had been allowed to grow up in brush and weeds, and the soil was depleted of its natural fertility. Since 1916, Miss Switzer has transformed the place. She erected a handsome, modern home, built a barn, cleared the land, and has raised excellent crops each year. In 1915 she purchased the nucleus of the "Early Dawn" herd of pure-bred Herefords from the James Curtis herd, and from the Gudgell and Simpson dispersal sale. She took along Uncle George Shand, who for many years had been in charge of the Gudgell and Simpson herd of Herefords, and knows more about the breeding of Hereford than any other breeder in Missouri. For over 11 years he was with Gudgell and Simpson, and he now has charge of the "Early Dawn" herd of splendid animals.

During the time she was employed in office work Miss Switzer owned two other farms, which she improved and sold. She has had considerable success in raising wheat, going at this phase of agriculture in the same thorough manner in which she has always done things. She threshed 26 acres of wheat in 1918 which yielded 35 bushels to the acre. Practically all of this yield was sold as seed wheat. Miss Switzer's methods of preparing the ground for seeding are somewhat different from the ordinary methods employed on Jackson County farms, and involved the plowing of the ground during the dry season of July and August, so that when the rains came in the late summer, before seeding time, the soil was softened and full of moisture, which remained in the ground while the wheat was sprouting and maturing.

Mary Jane Switzer was born in Kendall County, Illinois, and is a daughter of George Herbert and Mary Ella (Congdon) Switzer, the latter of whom was a daughter of Nicholas Congdon, a native of Rhode Island. George H. Switzer was a son of John Wesley Switzer, who was born in New Jersey, and was reared in Canada, a son of a Swiss and French mother. George H. Switzer located in Kansas in 1899, and now makes his home in that State. Mrs. Mary Ellen Switzer died when Mary Jane was but a child.

Miss Switzer received a good education and taught school prior to locating in Kansas City, where for twelve years she was employed at the stockyards as Mr. Yost's private secretary.

**Henry Vassilii Palaeologus Kabrick.**—Besides being a pioneer of Jackson County, Mr. Kabrick is one of the remaining Confederate veterans who fought for the cause which they deemed right. H. V. P. Kabrick of Sniabar township, was born at Morrisonville, Va., Nov. 15, 1841. He is a son of George and Jane (Morrison) Kabrick, the former of whom died in 1866 at the age of 70 years. Mrs. Kabrick died in 1897 at the advanced age of 88 years. The Kabricks came to Jackson County from Virginia in 1855. When Order No. 11 was issued the family went to St. Charles County and remained there until the close of the war.

Coming to this county with his parents in April, 1855, H. V. P. Kabrick grew to manhood on his father's farm. Aug. 14, 1862, he enlisted in Hayes Regiment, Second Missouri Cavalry, and served until the close of the Civil War with the Confederate army. He fought at the battles of Lone Jack and Newtonia under Gen. Joe Shelby and participated in the battles of Lexington, Boonville, Little Blue and after the battle of Westport he took part in the retreat of General Price's army to the South. His last battle was at Newtonia, Mo. After the surrender of Price's army at Shreveport, La., he returned home.

In December, 1870, Mr. Kabrick made his first investment in a farm one and a half miles northwest of Oak Grove. He built up his place and prospered and is now the owner of a splendid place of 155 acres which has grown more and more valuable during later years. In addition to his home place he is owner of 32 acres of land on Sni creek and has eight acres of timber land. For a number of years Mr. Kabrick followed the trade of carpenter while building up his farm.

Nov. 15, 1870, Mr. Kabrick was married to Mrs. Frances F. (George) Moore, widow of Ezra Moore who was killed July 11, 1862 at Sorenson, Mo. between Lone Jack and Pleasant Hill during the Civil War. The only







"THE BLUE AND THE GRAY."  
DAVID GEORGE LEE KABRICK  
Spanish-American War Veteran.

H. V. P. KABRICK  
C. S. A. Civil War Veteran.



MRS. FRANCES (GEORGE) KABRICK.



MRS. LORENA (KABRICK) PEARSON.





child born to Mrs. Kabrick's first marriage was an infant who died at the age of six months. The children born to H. V. P. and Frances F. Kabrick are: Lorena Peerson, residing on the Kabrick home place; D. G. Lee, born April 15, 1877, died in Jan. 3, 1916, was a soldier in the Spanish American War as a regular in the United States army and saw three years of service in the Philippines; Lulu Edna died at the age of one year. The mother of these children was born June 14, 1841 on the old George homestead near Oak Grove. She is a daughter of David C. and Nancy E. (Bass) George, natives of Pulaski County, Tenn., who came to Jackson County Oct. 9, 1836. David C. George was killed by Federal militiamen Feb. 15, 1863 while returning home from the South, southeast of Eldorado Springs. Mrs. George died in 1888.

Mr. Kabrick has always been a Democrat. He is one of Jackson County's sturdy and well known citizens who has witnessed the making of this county and has done well his part in its upbuilding. Mrs. Kabrick, his faithful helpmeet during these many years, is a member of the Primitive Baptist church and ranks among the oldest pioneer women of this section of the state.

**David Philpot Dyer**, senior member of the firm of Dyer and Son, Lake City, Mo., is a Missouri pioneer. He has been engaged in the mercantile business in Jackson County since December, 1882. His first experience in business in Jackson County was at Grain Valley, Mo., where it was necessary for him to take charge of a store in the settlement of a relative's estate. He came to Lake City in 1903, and has one of the best stocked retail country stores in the county. He and his son, John H. Dyer, are partners in the business, which has an excellent patronage.

David P. Dyer was born in Virginia in 1839, and was a son of George W. and Mary Ann (Philpot) Dyer, who removed from Virginia to Warren County, Missouri, in 1842. George W. and Mary Dyer were the parents of ten children, two of whom died in infancy. The others are as follow: Mrs. Sina Ann Jennings, Grain Valley, Mo.; Mrs. Martha Jane Locke, Kansas City; Mrs. Minnie Minton, St. Louis; Truston P., Los Angeles, Calif., who, with the subject of this sketch, are the survivors of the family.

Mr. Dyer enlisted in the Missouri State Guard in Calloway County in 1861, as a private in Company B, under Captain Berry, and later in Regan's battalion. He was elected lieutenant of his company. He fought in the battle of Lexington, and after six months service was taken prisoner by the Federals in Randolph County. He gave a \$2,500 bond for his parole, and was banished from the State. In the spring of 1865 he went

to Colorado, and cut logs for a sawmill in the mountain country until November, 1865. He then returned to his home and family in Warren County, and remained there until December, 1882, when he located at Grain Valley.

Mr. Dyer has been three times married. His first marriage was in December, 1860, with Mary Catherine Jackson, a daughter of former Lieut.-Governor Jackson, of Randolph County, Missouri. She died at Grain Valley in 1888, leaving five children, as follow: Robert Edwin, John Hancock, Ursula, Lee and David B. Robert Edwin Dyer lives in Texas. He married Alice Lakey, and has five children: John Earl, who served in the National Army and fought with the A. E. F. one year in France; Mrs. Mary Woods, mother of two children, Edwin and Virginia; David Woodson was married in Scotland, while serving as a volunteer in the United States Navy; Wayne and Robert.

John Hancock Dyer was born in 1866, and is his father's partner in the business at Lake City. He was married in 1890 to Josie Vaughn, and has children as follow: Claude C., a farmer, who married Lorene Vandyke, and has one child, Joseph Carlyle; Golden R., wife of Julius W. Mann, mother of one child, Asa Dyer Mann, lives at San Benito, Texas; Mary Belle, deceased; and Agnes.

Mrs. Ursula Galloway, lives in Kansas City, and has five children: Emmett, a sailor in the United States Navy, Mrs. Nannie Thomas, Woodson, Chester and Vernon.

David B. Dyer is at home. He married Effie Stout, and has three children: Lee, David and William. Lee died at the age of 16 years, in 1892.

Mr. Dyer's second marriage was with Benita Capelle, in 1889, a sister of John O. Capelle, former county treasurer. She died in 1890.

Mr. Dyer was married in April, 1897, to Josephine Powell, who died in 1914.

Mr. Dyer is a Democrat, and has always taken a decided interest in political matters. He was prominent in the civic and political affairs of Warren County, and was elected judge of the probate court of the county in 1874, serving four years in that capacity. He was appointed justice of the peace at Grain Valley, and served for a time in this office. While a resident of Warren County he was a candidate for sheriff, and ran for the office in the face of a Republican majority of 800 votes, and ran far ahead of his ticket, his opponent winning the office by but 90 votes. Mr. Dyer served as deputy sheriff of Warren County before the war. In



1860 he served as deputy United States marshal. Mr. Dyer has been a member of the Masons since 1863, and is one of the oldest Masons in the county.

Reeves Propst, successful farmer of Fort Osage township, owner of one of the best quarter sections in Jackson County, upon which he has resided since 1888, and had the satisfaction of building up and practically creating his farm and erecting all of the splendid existing improvements, is one of the substantial citizens of this county. He was born Feb. 27, 1865, in Pickaway County, Ohio, and is a son of William and Elizabeth Propst, a sketch of whom appears in connection with that of James W. Propst. In the same year that Reeves Propst was born his parents removed from Ohio to Illinois, and there resided until 1874, when William Propst came to Jackson County and purchased 400 acres of prairie land south of Buckner.

Reeves Propst grew up in this county, and assisted his father in the cultivation of his farm until 1888, when he began farming on his own account. He received as his share of the Propst estate, a farm of 133 1-3 acres, but purchased a sufficient acreage from his brother to make 166 acres. He was married in 1890 to Miss Catherine Mitchell, who was born at Irondale, Mo., in 1867. She is a daughter of John and Mary (McDonald) Mitchell, the former a native of Ireland, and the latter born in Cincinnati, Ohio. John and Mary Mitchell were married in Pennsylvania. The Mitchells moved to Irondale, Mo., and Mrs. Mitchell died in 1870. The father died at Bismarck, Mo. Mrs. Catherine (Mitchell) Propst was living in Kansas City at the time of her marriage. To the union of Reeves and Catherine Propst have been born children as follow: Clarence, Mary E., Julia, Celia, William, James, John, Francis Vincent and Richard Reeves.

Clarence was born Feb. 28, 1891, and served one year and 20 days in the National Army during the World War. He was inducted into the service May 23, 1918, and was in training at Camp Colt, Gettysburg, Pa., and went from there to Camp Merritt, N. J., October 10. He was a member of the Tank Corps at Camp Colt, and was attached to the Utility Detachment at Camp Merritt. He was honorably discharged from the service June 12, 1919. Mary E. was born Sept. 3, 1892. Julia E. was born Jan. 3, 1894, married Oct. 29, 1919, to Adolph Leiback, and resides at Lenexa, Kan. Celia was born Aug. 1, 1897. William was born July 28, 1899, and died at the age of two years and nine months. James was born June 20, 1901. John was born March 27, 1903. Francis Vincent was born Sept. 26, 1901. Richard Reeves was born Sept. 1, 1909.



Mr. Propst is a Republican. Mrs. Propst is a member of the Catholic church. They are affiliated with the Modern Brotherhood of America.

**O'Donnell Brothers.**—Michael, Richard and Mounie O'Donnell, of Fort Osage Township, owners of a splendid tract of rich land near Levasy, consisting of 240 acres, have achieved a more than ordinary success in Jackson County. They came to this county from Howard County, Missouri, in 1880, with very little money, but endowed with an ambition and energy to work hard and build up a home for their parents and themselves. They first bought a farm on the bank of the Missouri River, and farmed it for a time, and then bought their present farm, upon which they have built a substantial and handsome residence and placed other improvements which have added to the value of the farm, including a fine orchard. They use a tractor for the greater part of the farm work. The tractor was made in their own shop, the boys being natural mechanics. The machine which was assembled in the shop does excellent work. A son of Mounie O'Donnell also built an automobile. Every member of the family is a mechanic and the O'Donnell shop resembles a small factory. When not employed on the farm or attending to business they can be found working in the shop, building some new piece of farm machinery or overhauling the old machines.

Dominick O'Donnell, the father, was born in Ireland, and immigrated to America in his youth. He was married in Pennsylvania to Sarah Wingler, and moved from that State to Ohio, thence to Indiana, and from there they came to Howard County, Missouri, in 1878. They came to Jackson County in 1880. Dominick O'Donnell died in this county, Jan. 6, 1902. Mrs. O'Donnell died Dec. 4, 1911. Dominick and Sarah O'Donnell were the parents of children as follow: James, lives in Arkansas; John, deceased; Mrs. Mary De Garmo, St. Louis; Michael, of this review; Daniel, Howard County; Richard, a farmer in Fort Osage township; Mrs. Willie Gammon, Odessa, Mo.; and Mounie, of this review.

Mounie O'Donnell was born in 1870. He was married in 1900 to Jennie Bergschneider, who has borne him two children, Frank and Jennie.

Michael O'Donnell was born July 3, 1862, and is a bachelor. He is one of the substantial citizens of Jackson County.

Both O'Donnell brothers are Democrats. Their creed of life is "do right," and they have followed this maxim since boyhood. As a result they have made a success of their every undertaking, and are regarded highly among the citizens of their township and county.

Richard O'Donnell was born in 1870, and is a bachelor.

**Thomas C. Pemberton.**—The late Thomas C. Pemberton, of Fort Osage township, was a successful citizen, who not only achieved material prosperity as an artisan, and farmer in this county, but bequeathed to his adopted county a family which occupies a high place in the esteem and regard of the citizenship. Mr. Pemberton was born near Augusta, Ga., Aug. 12, 1827, and died at his home near Sibley, Feb. 19, 1905. He was a son of Russell and Hulda (Carner) Pemberton, who removed to Kenton County, Kentucky, in 1833. Mr. Pemberton made his home in Kentucky until he had attained his majority. When 17 years of age he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and learned the brick mason's trade, serving an apprenticeship of two years. When he had learned his trade he went south and followed his trade in Indiana and other sections through the building season. During the winter he engaged in steamboating on the Mississippi River, and thus employed his time for several years. He made his home at Covington, Ky., until 1850, when he started overland to the gold fields of California, accompanied by his wife and one child. His wife was taken sick, and he landed in Jackson County, and for a short time made his home in Independence, and gave up the plan of going to California. He soon engaged in the manufacture of brick at Sibley, and successfully carried on his business in Sibley, Lexington, Wellington and other towns in this vicinity. He also erected or supervised the erection of many brick residences in Jackson and Lafayette counties, and was kept busily and profitably employed until the outbreak of the Civil War. He took no part in this struggle, but was persecuted and harassed by invaders from Kansas and Union adherents because of his Southern birth. Several times he was forced to flee for his life, and kept in hiding until he went to Arkansas, where he remained for a few months, and then went to Leavenworth, Kan., following his trade in that city for two years until the close of the war. Returning to his home in Fort Osage township, he resumed the pursuit of his trade and set about improving his farm. In 1877 he turned his attention exclusively to farming and stock raising, and built up one of the fine estates in Jackson County, comprising 300 acres.

Mr. Pemberton was first married in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1848, to Miss Louise Leier, a native of Baltimore, Md., who died in Sibley, Mo., in 1853, leaving two children, Thomas A., died at the age of three years; and Louise, deceased wife of Robert Hughes, who died in Wyandotte County, Kansas, leaving two children, Olivia and Emma.

Mr. Pemberton's second marriage was in Fort Osage township, Dec. 10, 1856, with Miss Armilda Thompson, a daughter of John K. and Jerusha Thompson, natives of Kentucky. Four children were born to this union,



as follow: Thomas C., Anna M., Cora Belle, Elwin S., and Margaret. The mother of the foregoing children was born in Jackson County, Dec. 10, 1837, and departed this life Nov. 2, 1917. Thomas C. Pemberton died in 1911. He had married Nellie Hayes, who bore him four children: Charles, Jefferson, Thomas C., Jr., and Maude. Anna M. died in 1886. Elwin S. is a prosperous farmer, living in Fort Osage township, a sketch of whose career appears elsewhere in this volume. Cora Belle and Margaret reside on the Pemberton home place of 200 acres, which is improved with a handsome brick residence erected by their father. Miss Belle Pemberton has charge of the farm, and has proven herself to be an able manager.

Thomas C. Pemberton devoted his life to his affairs and to the rearing of his family, in whom he took great pride. His ambition in life was to provide amply for their welfare. In this he succeeded while doing his part as a citizen in the upbuilding of Jackson County. His honorable dealing, his steadfast determination to succeed in whatever he undertook won him success. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias.

**Henry S. Kritser**, owner of a splendid farm in Brooking township of 40 acres, on which he has resided since 1883, and which is one of the best appearing and most fertile farms in the neighborhood, is one of old timers of Jackson County. Mr. Kritser has lived all of his 75 years in this county, and is one of the oldest of the native born pioneers in Brooking township. He was born Jan. 5, 1844, in Independence.

His father, Martin L. Kritser, was born in Pennsylvania, and went from his home on the border line of western Pennsylvania to Kentucky, and there married Mary Jane Wilson, at Mays Lick, Ky. He came to Missouri in 1834, and conducted a grocery store at Independence until 1855. In 1855 he located on a farm of 240 acres south of Raytown, in Brooking township, and lived on this farm until his death. He was the father of seven sons and seven daughters, 11 of his children attaining maturity. Three sons are living: Millard F., Kansas City; John S., Taylor, Texas; and Henry, the subject of this sketch. Two daughters are living: Lydia, Kansas City, Mo.; and Kate, Independence. Two of his sons, John S. and Martin Kritser, were members of Gen. Joe Shelby's bodyguard, or Langhorne's company, during the Civil War, and served throughout that conflict.

Henry Kritser, of this review, wanted the worst kind to go to war and fight for the Southern cause, but someone had to stay at home and assist his parents. Once when Shelby's men were passing through the



country, his brother, John, stopped at the home for a meal. Henry had made up his mind to join him and go with Shelby, but his brother insisted that the hardships were such that he should not go, and that it was his duty to stay at home. He stayed with his father on the home farm until 1868; he then married and located on a farm one and a half miles south, until he bought his present place.

Mr. Kritser was married in 1868, to Elizabeth Davenport, who was born in 1845, and died Oct. 2, 1915. She was born in Jackson County and was a daughter of Stephen Davenport, a Jackson County pioneer, who came here from Kentucky. Three children blessed this union: Mrs. Maude Patrick, lives in Kansas City, and has two sons, Frank and Charles Patrick, both of whom served in France with the A. E. F.; Jesse J. Kritser lives in Texas; and Charles lives on the home place and has charge of the Kritser farm. He married Mary Dripps, and has one child, Mary Alice.

Mr. Kritser is a Democrat, emphatic in his views and a strong Wilson adherent, and decidedly in favor of President Wilson's policies and the League of Nations. He is a member of the Christian church. During his entire life he has been active in furthering good movements, which have had much to do with the development of the county. He started the movement for the building of the Raytown-Lees Summit rock road, and had the satisfaction of seeing this splendid project pushed to completion. He was one of the originators of the No. 2 consolidated school district. Mr. Kritser talked this school to the patrons and stayed with the proposition until all opposition was vanquished, and the school was established and a new building erected. He is a good citizen, a fine type of the old time pioneer who has progressed with times, and is young in enterprise and thought.

**James Alvin Debord** has the distinction of being the third oldest native born pioneer in Brooking township. He was born in this township, Nov. 4, 1855, on the Alvin Brooking estate north of Raytown. His father was William C. Debord, who married Serena M. Brooking, a daughter of Alvin Brooking, a pioneer settler of Brooking township, and after whom this township was named.

William C. Debord was born in Virginia, and died in Brooking township in 1860. He came to this county when a young man, and was here married to Serena M. Brooking, who was born in Kentucky, and died in Jackson County in 1904. William C. Debord was well educated, and taught school in this county when he first came here and boarded at the

Brooking home. He later engaged in farming, and was the father of five children, four of whom were reared: William H. and Alice, deceased; James A., of this sketch; John Debord, living in Brooking township; and Mrs. Emma Bull, living near Raytown.

In 1861, Mrs. Debord was married to Logan Pendleton, and bore him six children: Mrs. Lillie Rice, living near Raytown; Robert, deceased; Edward, Raytown; Mrs. Mattie Whitehouse, near Brooking cemetery; Alex, deceased; Mrs. Elvira Wilson, living on the Brooking home place; and Marcus, living near Brooking cemetery.

James A. Debord attended the Chapel school and the Lane and Pitcher school, which were conducted mainly on the subscription plan. When he became of age he began working on his own account, and was employed on the Henry Brooking place for three years. He was married in 1879 to Amanda Stapp, who was born in Kentucky in 1853, and was a daughter of Washington Stapp. Mrs. Debord died Nov. 20, 1917. The children born to this union are: Jessie, wife of M. W. Sechrest, Brooking township, mother of three children, Elsie, Mildred and Clyde; Wallace, at home, married Myrtle Stout, and has two children, Leonard and Stayton Alvin, and Alice, deceased.

After his marriage, Mr. Debord settled on the Rube Marckaby place, and lived there for one year. He then rented the farm belonging to the Campbell heirs, east of the cemetery, for two years. He moved to his present farm in 1882, at which time he bought 40 acres and improved it. Mr. Debord owns 30 acres of the old Brooking farm, and has 110 acres of valuable land in all.

He has always been a Democrat. Mr. Debord is well informed, takes a keen interest in every day affairs, lives comfortably and happily and is a thoroughly good citizen.

**Ottis Adams**, farmer and stockman, proprietor of 385 acres of well improved farm land, is a native of Jackson County, and a descendant of one of the first pioneer settlers of Jackson County. The Adams farm is situated in Sniabar township, and is improved with a splendid farm house, set in a grove of evergreens and all buildings are in good condition. Mr. Adams has made his home on the place since 1897, and is making a specialty of breeding Shorthorn cattle, of which he has a fine herd of 20 pure-breds. This herd is 22 years old, and was purchased from the Chiles herd of Shorthorns. Mr. Adams disposes of his fine cattle at private sale.

Ottis Adams was born Sept. 17, 1878, and is a son of the late Hon. James M. Adams, who was one of the best known citizens of Jackson





KEITH, ROMA GEORGE AND KENNETH OTIS ADAMS.



JOHN B. CAMPBELL.





County. See sketch of James M. Adams in this volume. Ottis Adams was reared in Jackson County, and attended the district schools. He was married Feb. 8, 1897, to Miss Nellie G. Campbell, born in Jackson County, Feb. 4, 1879, a daughter of John B. Campbell, Jr., born Aug. 13, 1856, and died on April 30, 1886. J. B. Campbell, Jr., was a son of John B. Campbell, a pioneer in Jackson County, and became a large land owner. John B. Campbell, Sr., was born Jan. 20, 1822. Rachel A. Campbell, his wife, was born Oct. 6, 1822. He died March 4, 1884. J. B. Campbell, Jr., was married to Alice Latimer, March 21, 1878. Mrs. Adams mother was Alice Latimer, prior to her marriage. She was born Feb. 4, 1860, in this county, and was a daughter of the late Washington Latimer, a pioneer.

To John B. and Alice Campbell were born two children: Mrs. Nellie G. Adams, and Ruth, born July 15, 1881, and died Oct. 13, 1885. Mrs. Adams inherited the home place. In 1893 Mrs. Campbell married Newton J. Love, and this marriage was blessed with four children: Mrs. Ruby Chapman, Sniabar township; Terrence, who was a soldier in the World War, and served in France as a member of Company C, Eighty-ninth division; Ralph and Jewell, at home with their parents in Buckner. Mrs. Adams has resided on the home place since she was two years old, with the exception of one year's residence in Kansas City with Mr. Adams after their marriage. The children born to Ottis and Nellie G. Adams are: Keith, Roma George, and Kenneth Ottis.

Keith Campbell Adams was born Feb. 25, 1900, and is now attending high school in Kansas City. He enlisted in the United States Navy June 5, 1918, spent six months in the training station at Seattle, and three months at Norfolk, Va., and was discharged in February, 1919. Roma George Adams was born Sept. 27, 1903, and is a junior at Central College, Lexington, Mo. Kenneth Ottis Adams was born Dec. 12, 1916.

Mr. Adams is a Democrat, who takes an interest in political and civic affairs. Mrs. Adams is a member of the Methodist Church South, and they are sociable, companionable, well-read people.

**William C. Potts**, extensive farmer and stockman, owner of 400 acres in Sniabar township, is a native of Jackson County. He was born on an adjoining farm, June 28, 1861, and is a son of Levi and Sina Emily (Slaughter) Potts, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Missouri. Levi Potts served in the Confederate Army during four years of the Civil War. During the early part of the war he served with Quantrell, and during the last part of the war he was in General Price's command.

Levi Potts was born in 1827, and died in 1913. He was a son of John Potts, who married a Miss Morrow, and who came from Kentucky to Jackson County in 1829, and entered government land near Lake City. He later left the county and moved to a farm near Columbus, Johnson County. After some years spent in Johnson County he returned to Jackson County and purchased the land whereon a part of Grain Valley is now located. The land adjoining the site of this town later passed to Levi Potts, when the estate was divided among the heirs. Some of this land is still owned by descendents of John Potts. In the early fifties Levi Potts located southeast of Grain Valley, and purchased land which is now owned by his son, William C. Potts, and accumulated a total of 360 acres. In his later years he made his home with his son, William C. Mrs. Sina Emily Potts was born in 1837, and died in April, 1903. She was a daughter of Josiah Slaughter, an early pioneer of this county, who came here from Virginia. There were ten children born to Levi and Sina Emily Potts, as follow: Mary Elizabeth, deceased wife of John Gore; Mrs. Sarah Frances Snodgrass, Grain Valley, Mo.; Lethia, deceased; William C., of this sketch, and Eliza, who died in childhood; Josiah Potts, lives on a nearby farm; Mrs. Ida Lynch, lives on an adjoining farm; John, died in youth; Riley, died in September, 1902; Mrs. Georgia Hoar, Kansas City.

William C. Potts attended the Stony Point and the Moreland schools, and when he had attained his majority he began making his own way. His father gave him a horse, bridle, saddle, and later gave him some land. When his father died he received 40 acres as his share of the estate. Mr. Potts made his first purchase of land in 1883, a tract of 54 acres. In 1895, he bought his present home place of 103 acres, upon which he has erected all of the improvements. He bought 70 acres in 1899. In 1905 he bought 100 acres of the old Mason farm. In 1913 he purchased 60 acres and had purchased a small tract of timber land consisting of 15 acres.

Mr. Potts was married in 1883 to Mary E. Steele, who was born Sept. 12, 1861, in Jackson County, a daughter of Samuel J. and Catherine (Snodgrass) Steele, pioneers of Jackson County, both of whom are deceased. Samuel J. Steele was a native of Kentucky, and was an associate of Daniel Boone. He made in all seven trips across the plains, and in the early days he drove herds of hogs and cattle from Missouri to the Carolinas. During the forties he was a freighter across the plains over the Santa Fe trail, in the employ of Spangler.

Mr. Potts' father, Levi Potts, was a forty-niner, who went to the Pacific coast in 1849 with ox-teams and worked in the gold mines for



several months. He returned home and sometime later made another trip to the Pacific coast. Mr. Steele also made trips to California and mined gold in company with Sam Campbell.

Five children have been born to William C. and Mary E. Potts, as follow: Delbert, living on a farm nearby, a land owner, married Grace Elizabeth Brown, and has four children, William Calvin, deceased, Riley, Lenora Margaret, and James Leroy. Elza Potts married Ida Beryl Smith, is a farmer, and a member of the Free Masons, being a Shriner and a Scottish Rite Mason. Mrs. Louetta Moore lives south of Tarsney, and has one child, Robert Lane. Myrna, deceased. Josie is attending school.

Mr. Potts is a Democrat. He and his family worship at the Methodist church, and he is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Grain Valley, and is a Shriner and a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason.

Charles Quarles Lewis, farmer and dairyman, a few miles east of Independence, is a native Missourian, and one of the best known men in Jackson County. He was born in Saline County, March 13, 1857, in old Jonesboro, now Napton. He is a son of Charles Q. and Virginia W. (Gooch) Lewis, both of whom were born in Virginia and accompanied their respective parents to Missouri when children. The families first located in Ohio and came to Missouri overland. Virginia W. (Gooch) Lewis was a daughter of William D. Gooch, a pioneer millright in Missouri, who erected Gooch's Mill and founded the settlement of that name in the southeastern part of Cooper County, Missouri.

Charles Q. Lewis, the elder, was born March 6, 1826, and died Dec. 3, 1901. He was a son of Charles T. Lewis, born July 29, 1799, and who married Mary M. Quarles, who was born Jan. 5, 1803, and bore him children as follow: Eliza, born Jan. 5, 1821; Susan V., born Nov. 5, 1822; Meriwether, born July 28, 1824; Nicholas H., born Dec. 6, 1827; Alice Thornton, born Dec. 30, 1829; John, born Oct. 28, 1831; James Henry, born May 24, 1834; Margaret Emily, born March 10, 1839; Helen Augusta, born May 4, 1841; Louise Virginia, born May 21, 1844.

The children born to Charles J. and Virginia W. Lewis are as follow: Nannie Quarles, deceased; Mrs. Lillian Leora Miller, deceased; Mrs. Ada Byron Tucker, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Mary Miller Williamson, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Eliza Henry Tucker, Bryan, Texas; William Thornton or Charles Q.; Meriwether Lewis, deceased. Meriwether Lewis, famous in American history as the associate of George Rogers Clarks in the Lewis and Clarke exploring expedition of the Missouri River Valley and the

northwestern country, was a relative of the father of C. Q. Lewis, of this review, and was likewise the great-uncle of C. Q. Lewis, the younger.

The mother of the foregoing children is descended from an interesting American family. Her father, William D. Gooch, married Matilda Chiles, on March 25, 1813. W. D. Gooch was born April 16, 1782, and died Sept. 9, 1856. His wife, Matilda, was born Sept. 2, 1793, and died April 30, 1859. Matilda (Chiles) Gooch was a daughter of John and Polly (Tisdale) Chiles, who were married Jan. 6, 1792. John Chiles was born Aug. 18, 1767. His wife, Polly, was born Sept. 2, 1793.

Charles Q. Lewis, Sr., settled in Saline County, Missouri, after his marriage. In 1877 he moved to Buchanan County, and founded the old St. Charles Hotel at St. Joseph, at the corner of Fifth and Charles streets. He operated this hotel until 1892, and then moved to Independence. In 1897 he removed to Oklahoma City, and resided there with his daughter, Mrs. T. W. Williamson, until his death.

Charles Q. Lewis resided in Saline County, Missouri, until he attained his majority. He then accompanied his father to St. Joseph, and from 1877 to 1879 he conducted a cigar store in that city. In 1880 he went to La Cygne, Kan., and became a member of the firm, George J. Miller Mercantile Company, remaining with this concern until 1890. He then returned to St. Joseph, and was in partnership with his father in the real estate business for 18 months, and in 1892 he came to Independence, and in April of that year engaged in the grocery business, the firm being C. Q. Lewis and Son. The grocery store was enlarged to a general merchandise business, and they conducted it for about four years. Selling out the business, Mr. Lewis engaged in farming and dairying east of Independence for about eight years. In 1904 he became a traveling salesman for the Eagle Manufacturing, and Smith and Sons Manufacturing Company, of Kansas City, a position which he held for four years. He returned to the farm and operated it until 1913. He then engaged in the real estate business in Independence for three years, since which time he has lived on his son's farm. During the winter of 1919-1920, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis resided in Blue Springs, returning to their farm in the spring of 1920. The Lewis dairy farm comprises 90 acres.

Charles Q. Lewis was married Jan. 31, 1882, to Miss Laura J. Lehr, who was born in Topeka, Kan., Aug. 14, 1857. She is a daughter of Gabriel (born May 26, 1823, died Dec. 23, 1869) and Margaret (Marks) Lehr (born Nov. 22, 1825, died April 4, 1909). Gabriel Lehr was a native of Lewiston, Pa., and was a Kansas pioneer. Owing to the unsettled con-



dition in the border state in 1859 he returned to Pennsylvania and remained there until 1867, when he went to Kansas and purchased 1,500 acres of timber and lowlands, south of Paoli, in Miami and Linn counties. He established a sawmill and proceeded to clear the land of timber. He died before the project was fairly under way. His widow, with characteristic fortitude and determination, took his place and proceeded with the plans of developing and paying for the land. She operated the mills and furnished the timbers for the construction of the Fort Scott and Gulf railroad, now the Frisco railroad. Mrs. Lehr was an excellent manager and a very capable woman. While doing this work which had devolved upon her after her husband's death, she reared a family of children, as follow: Thaddeus Baker, Paoli, Kan., a traveling salesman; Clara Ellen (Christian), Odell, Ill.; James Lincoln, Seattle, Wash.; Albert Marks, Oklahoma City, manufacturer; and Mrs. Laura J. Lewis.

The children born to Charles Q. and Laura J. Lewis are as follow: Charles P., born Sept. 3, 1883, deceased; Lillian L., born Oct. 24, 1885, was the wife of Rev. James Percy Stewart, minister and missionary, deceased; George Winn; and Charles Q., Jr.

Rev. James Percy Stewart was born near Richmond, Va., and came to Liberty when a young man and was educated in William Jewell College. He was pastor of the Baptist church at Fulton and St. Louis, and finished his theological education in a seminary at Louisville, Ky. He was sent as missionary to Rome and remained there for seven years. His last charge was that of pastor of the Boles Avenue Baptist Church of Kansas City. Rev. Stewart died Feb. 6, 1916, at Liberty, Mo. Mrs. Stewart has five children: Meriwether Lewis Stewart, who was born in St. Louis, just 100 years after the death of his ancestor and namesake, Meriwether Lewis, the explorer; John Armstrong Stewart; Mary Emily, Lillian Virginia, and James Percy Stewart, Jr.

George Winn Lewis was born Feb. 6, 1889, and is employed as an engineer on the Chicago and Alton railroad. He was married April 19, 1911, to Viola W. Graham, and has three children: G. Winn, born April 26, 1912, died Sept. 3, 1917; Ruth, born in May, 1915; Lucy Marjorie, born May 31, 1913; Catherine Virginia, born in May, 1918.

C. Q. Lewis, Jr., a farmer, living in Blue township, was born April 11, 1892, and was married Dec. 13, 1911, to Susan Blakemore, and has three children: Virginia Louise, born May 18, 1913; Robert, born in July, 1914; and Meriwether, born in March, 1917.

Mr. Lewis has in his possession the family bibles which have been



handed down from his parents and grandparents, and which give the family records for four generations. He is an independent Democrat. He and Mrs. Lewis are members of the Baptist church of Independence, and he is a Mason, member of Lodge No. 76, of Independence.

**Isaac N. Thompson**, now living retired at Lees Summit, was for many years successfully engaged in farming and stock raising, and is still the owner of 400 acres of land in Prairie township, which is one of the valuable farms of Jackson County. Mr. Thompson is a native of Illinois, born in Madison County, Dec. 2, 1846. He is the son of William Hester A. (Nave) Thompson. William Thompson was a Kentuckian, and in early manhood removed to Madison County, Illinois, from his native State. He was a man of extensive affairs, and in the early days of Madison County, Illinois, was engaged in farming and stock raising. He also conducted a hotel, and operated a stage line to St. Louis. Later he removed to Minnesota with his family, about 1855. He remained there about ten years, when he came to Jackson County, Missouri, and bought 700 acres of land in Prairie township. Here he was engaged in stock raising and feeding, on a large scale. He was also an extensive shipper of live stock. He died on his farm home in Prairie township at the age of 66 years. His wife, Hester A. (Nave) Thompson, was a native of Nashville, Tenn. She lived to the advanced age of 86 years, and departed this life in 1906.

Isaac N. Thompson is the youngest of three children born to his parents. Three sisters died of scarlet fever. Mr. Thompson was educated in the public schools of Illinois and Minnesota, and was about 19 years of age when he came to Jackson County with his parents, in 1865. He remained on the home farm in Prairie township with his father, and co-operated in its operation, and in the stock business, until his father's death, when he inherited the home place. Here he was extensively engaged in farming and stock raising until 1906, when he retired and moved to Lees Summit, where he has since resided, and where he has a pleasant, modern home.

Mr. Thompson was united in marriage, May 11, 1869, with Miss Mary Wilson, a native of Kentucky. She is a daughter of David and Sarah J. (Walker) Wilson, who were very early pioneer settlers in Missouri, coming to this State about 1844. To Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have been born seven children, as follow: Mabelle, married John Collins, and is now deceased; Gertrude, married John Jemmison, and is now deceased; Wyman, a bookkeeper in the stockyards, Kansas City, Mo.; Frank, a daughter, resides at home with her parents; Lena, married E. Butterfield, and resides

in Smith County, Texas; William W., engaged in the laundry business at Lees Summit; and Tillie, married C. Colman, Great Falls, Mont.

Mr. Thompson is a Democrat, and one of Jackson County's substantial citizens. He takes a keen interest in the welfare of his town and county, and is progressive and public-spirited. He is one of the original boosters for better roads.

**James L. H. Franklin**, late well known farmer of Fort Osage township, was born March 30, 1842, and died Aug. 5, 1908. He was a son of Benjamin Franklin, who was born in Bourbon County, Kentucky, and accompanied his father, Lewis Franklin, to Jackson County, in 1831. Lewis Franklin founded a home for his family in this county and died here in 1860. Benjamin Franklin was reared to manhood on his father's farm, and after his marriage to Letha Horn, a native of Johnson County, he settled in Osage township. He died at the age of 33 years.

James L. H. Franklin was the only child of his parents. He grew up in Jackson County, and received such education as was afforded by the district schools. He followed in the footsteps of his forebears, and became a farmer and stockman, improving his splendid farm of 480 acres, and making a success of his vocation.

The late Mr. Franklin was three times married. His first marriage was with Miss Maryetta Tyer, a daughter of Lewis Tyer, of Fort Osage township. One child was born to this union, James L., who died when a year old. Mrs. Maryetta Franklin died in Denver, Colo., in 1874, where she had gone in the hope of regaining her health. Mr. Franklin's second marriage was with Laura Turner, who died without issue. In 1892 he was united in marriage with Miss Virginia Lee Barnes, who was born Dec. 5, 1863, at New Market, Mo. She was a daughter of Michael and Elizabeth (Smith) Barnes, both natives of Missouri. Michael Barnes was a son of Rev. James Barnes, a Baptist minister, who was one of the first Baptist missionaries who went to California. Michael Barnes also went overland to California, taking his family in prairie schooners, in 1864. The trip required six months and upon their arrival there they settled on a ranch near Petaluma, Sonoma County. Here he reared his family, and engaged in ranching for a number of years.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin settled on the Franklin home place in Fort Osage township, and co-operated in building up the fine Franklin estate, which now consists of 430 acres, and is owned by Mrs. Franklin, who removed to Independence after the death of Mr. Franklin, and now resides at 614 West Maple avenue. One daughter was



born to J. L. H. and Virginia Lee Franklin, namely, Miss Marietta Franklin, who resides with her mother.

The late Mr. Franklin was a Democrat. He was industrious and enterprising. He was a member of the Baptist church and liberal in his support of the church and kindred institutions.

**John Young Porter** was born Oct. 25, 1857, and departed this life on March 26, 1918. He was a son of William Carroll and Frances (Powers) (Hutchings) Porter, natives, respectively, of Sumner County, Tenn., and Kentucky. William C. Porter was born in 1817, and died in Jackson County, March 18, 1900. He came to Jackson County in 1834, when a youth of 17, married here, and participated in the early day development of the County. He accumulated a large body of land, some of which he entered from the government, and became one of the wealthy citizens of Jackson County. He was the father of six children: John Young, of this review; Mrs. Martha Ann Cook, of Independence; Mary Alice, wife of Joseph Anderson, Blue Springs; Eliza Jane, deceased; Jessie and another child died in infancy.

John Young Porter was reared to young manhood on his father's farm, near Lees Summit. His father gave him the present Porter place, which is a part of the old Hutchings place, in Sniabar township, and after his marriage in 1891 he settled on the property and proceeded to develop it. The Porter place consists of 230 acres, 60 acres of which is devoted to apple growing. The Porter orchard is 23 years old, and is now in the prime of production. Foreseeing that this section of Jackson County was destined to become a fruit growing center, Mr. Porter set out the orchards, cared for and sprayed his trees in the scientific way, and the family is now reaping the results of his labors. For several years the orchards have been producing splendid crops of apples. This year, 1919, the apple crop was sold on the trees for \$4,500. The Porter homestead is one of the best improved in Jackson County, a large white farm house, large barns and a concrete silo with a capacity of 180 tons are the major improvements.

Nov. 26, 1891, John Y. Porter was married to Miss Julia Anne Brown, who was born in Sumner County, Tenn., March 5, 1863. She is a daughter of Jeremiah and Lucy Samantha (Brizendine) Brown, the former of whom resides in Independence. Jeremiah Brown was born in July, 1843, and came from Tennessee to Jackson County in October, 1881. They settled on a farm just across the road from the Porter place, and later moved to a place near Oak Grove. After some years of residence near Oak Grove, Mr. Brown retired to Independence. Mrs. Lucy S. Brown





JOHN Y. PORTER AND FAMILY.



was born Oct. 29, 1836, and died March 27, 1918. They were the parents of eight daughters: Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Clampitt, living near Oak Grove; Julia Ann Porter; Mrs. Susie Lane St. Clair, Oak Grove; Mrs. Amanda Jane Mundy, died at Blue Springs; Mrs. Marguerite Luella Bergschneider, Eldorado, Kan.; Mrs. Beulah Lillian Mundy, Independence; Mrs. Willie Pond Holke, Independence.

The children born to John Y. and Julia Anne Porter are: William Carroll Porter, born Sept. 6, 1892, now managing the Porter home place; and Marie and Julia, at home with their mother.

John Y. Porter was a Democrat. He attended the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mrs. Porter is a member, and was affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He was an industrious and enterprising citizen, who stood high in his community.

**William M. Sloan**, attorney, former real estate dealer of Kansas City, well known politician, now a farmer in Sniabar township, is one of the most widely known citizens of Jackson County. Mr. Sloan, after years of activity in commercial and civic circles of Kansas City, is now residing comfortably on his beautiful country estate. He was born at Keokuk, Iowa, in 1859, and is a son of John and Fannie M. (Breedon) Sloan, both natives of Mason County, Kentucky. John Sloan, the father, was a merchant at Alexander, Iowa. Fannie M. (Breedon) Sloan was a daughter of John M. Breedon, an attorney and Kentucky pioneer, who was a nephew of President James Madison, and came of a prominent Southern family. When Mr. Breedon removed to Keokuk, he became a capitalist and promoter and owned considerable land near the city and real estate within its confines. About 1861, the Sloan family, Mr. Breedon and his family located at Lexington, Mo. The family of John M. Breedon consisted of six sons and a daughter. He and three of his sons entered the Union Army. John M. Breedon was taken prisoner later by the Confederates and died from the effects of his imprisonment. William Breedon became a colonel in the army, and entered the Jesse Scouts with General Fremont. After the close of the war he located at Santa Fe, N. M., and served as attorney-general of the territory for 14 years. Talma Breedon died during the Civil War.

Marshall M. Breedon enlisted in the Union Army at the age of 16 years. After the war he went to New Mexico, and served as postmaster at Santa Fe. He became assistant attorney-general and practiced law. He later moved to Utah, and became attorney-general of that State. From there he moved to Los Angeles, and died in 1918.



John M. Breeden, Jr., went to Colorado and died young in years. Henry Clay Breeden, at the age of 14 years, went to Burlingame, Kan., and from there made the overland trip to California. When he arrived in San Francisco he had a total of 35 cents. Despite his poverty he put up at a first-class hotel and secured a position almost immediately. A few years later he went to Portland, Ore., and secured a good position. He and a partner engaged in the furniture and carpet business, which he expanded into an extensive business. He made considerable money. After some years, he sold out in Portland and traveled all over the world with the announced intention of locating in the most suitable and desirable spot in which he would make his future home. He finally located in Los Angeles, and is one of its wealthiest citizens.

The father of William M. Sloan moved to Decatur, Ill., and engaged in farming for three years. He then became interested in the manufacture of corn planters operated by horse power, and purchased the patents of the Alexander Corn Planter, the first planter operated by horse power ever placed in the market. He built up an extensive business, sold out, and in 1874 located in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he engaged in railroad contracting. He died at Indianapolis, Ind., July 19, 1906. He reared a family of three sons and four daughters, as follow: Dr. John H. Sloan, William M., of this review; Ardella, living in Kansas City; Mrs. Anna M. Noel, whose husband is James W. Noel, a prominent attorney who was an assistant prosecutor for the State in the Los Angeles Times dynamiting case; Clifton B. and Fannie V.

Dr. John H. Sloan was a physician who practiced in Santa Fe, N. M., for 30 years. His health failed and he returned to Missouri, dying in Kansas City, Nov. 14, 1917. Mamie A. is the wife of Charles A. Dyer, an attorney of Indianapolis. Clifton B. Sloan is an architect in Kansas City. Fannie V. is the wife of William E. Campbell, of Clay County, now living in Kansas City. His mother was the first white child born in Kansas City, and his father was one of the original owners of the town site of Kansas City.

The mother of the foregoing children died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Fannie Campbell, on January 4, 1915.

William M. Sloan, of this review, was educated in the public schools of Springfield, Ill., and Cincinnati, Ohio. For two years he attended the country schools of Bourbon County, Kentucky, and then completed his education in Cincinnati. In the latter city he studied at the Chickering Institute, pursuing a commercial course, and also studied at the Cincinnati

Law School. In 1882 he went to Santa Fe, N. M., and entered the law offices of Breeden and Waldo, the former of whom was attorney-general of New Mexico, and the latter the solicitor for the Santa Fe Railroad Company. He was admitted to the bar in 1884, and remained in Santa Fe until his marriage, Dec. 25, 1885. He then located in Kansas City, and engaged in the real estate business during the great real estate boom. He organized the real estate firm of Sloan and Truitt and their operations were conducted on a large scale.

Mr. Sloan became interested in politics, made speeches over the county, and became widely acquainted, becoming one of the leaders of the Republican party in the city and county. In 1894 he was the candidate of his party for the office of county marshal, and was elected by a plurality of 22 votes. However, the opposition never intended that he should take up the duties of his office. Election crooks who were in the pay of the politicians are alleged to have got hold of the election record books, and changed the figures, so as to show that Mr. Sloan had been defeated by 17 votes. His opponent in the election was then rushed to Jefferson City and received his commission from the governor. Mr. Sloan and his friends at once instituted a contest, and the matter was fought out in the courts for sometime, the Supreme Court eventually decided against his contest by a vote of four to three.

In 1895, Mr. Sloan was appointed by Mayor Davis to the position of chief deputy in the city clerk's office, a place which he ably filled for one and a half years. Following this he filled the office of street commissioner under Mayor Jones, and continued in the office under Mayor Reed. He was then appointed to a place in the upper house of the city council, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Councilman Kelly, and held this position for three and a half years. In 1904 he was re-elected to a membership in the upper house, and served until 1908. During this time he was a member of the street railway committee, which had charge of the street railway franchise, the terminal railway depot franchise, and other important railway matters of vital interest in to the people of Kansas City. Under Mayor Thomas T. Crittenden, the city and the other parties interested became deadlocked over the land damage question relative to the settlement of the depot problem, and at his request Mr. Sloan wrote a letter to the mayor submitting a plan for the solution of the deadlock. He outlined a plan whereby a committee of five men should be appointed to fix the damages. The mayor hastened to accept it and called him to a meeting, where he offered him a place on the committee two days later.



The conference was held at the Baltimore Hotel, and the mayor informed Mr. Sloan that he had proposed the real solution to the vexing problem. He suggested ten real estate men, of whom five were to be chosen for the commission, but that feature was rejected and John A. Moore, representing the company, and Mr. Sloan, representing the city, were selected. This commission of two men then performed the hitherto hopeless task of assessing the damages for the proposed public improvements.

After leaving the office of street commissioner, Mr. Sloan organized the Sloan and Norris Realty Company, and engaged in general real estate and fire insurance business in 1901. This firm was successfully engaged until Mr. Norris' death, Oct. 5, 1917. Mr. Sloan then closed out the business and came to his farm in Sniabar township.

Mr. Sloan was married Dec. 31, 1885, to Miss Lula Waldo, in Prince George's County, Maryland. Mrs. Lula Sloan was born in Independence, Missouri, March 8, 1861, and is a daughter of the late Dr. David and Eliza (Norris) Waldo, natives of Kentucky. Dr. David Waldo was a son of Jedediah Waldo, who had children as follow: John, Edward, Cornelius and Polly Porter. Dr. Waldo was born April 30, 1802, near Clarksburg, W. Va., and died May 20, 1878, in Independence. He graduated in medicine at Lexington, Ky., in 1822, and for some years he was engaged in overland freighting to New Mexico. He engaged in banking in Independence, and became one of the best known men of his day in this city. He was a fine scholar, a student, and a Christian gentleman. Dr. Waldo was married March 27, 1849, at Independence, to Eliza Jane Norris, a daughter of Edward and Margaret (Glasgow) Norris, the latter a native of Culpeper Court House, Va., and the former of Mount Sterling, Ky. During the Mexican War Dr. Waldo was captain of a company of Missouri Volunteers.

The children born to Dr. David and Eliza (Norris) Waldo are: William, born Jan. 1, 1850, killed in New Mexico in May, 1894; Olive, born July 23, 1851; David, born June 21, 1853; Minnie, born Sept. 21, 1856; Lula Elizabeth, wife of the subject of this review.

The children born to William M. and Lula Sloan are as follow: Agnes, Aldine, John K. and Waldo Douglas. Agnes Sloan was born in December, 1888, and was the wife of Elbert G. Barnes. She died Dec. 6, 1918. Aldine, born Jan. 20, 1890, and died July 3, 1911. Lieut. John K. Sloan, late of the National Army, was born in 1892, and died of influenza in camp at Dallas, Texas, Oct. 13, 1918. He graduated from the Kansas City schools, and was graduated from the Manual Training High School and



the department of civil engineering, State University, and was a man of great promise and ability of a high order. When the United States declared war upon Germany he was engaged as assistant engineer on a bridge contract at Nowata, Okla. He at once offered his services to the government, and enlisted in the aviation department of the army at Kansas City, and was commissioned a lieutenant while waiting at Dallas, Texas, for orders to proceed overseas. Waldo Douglas Sloan was born in June, 1897, and enlisted in the National Army. After the armistice was signed he received his honorable discharge and returned home.

Mr. and Mrs. Sloan have good and just right to be proud of the fact that they sent their two sons to serve under the stars and stripes in defense of human liberty throughout the world. The sympathy of all is with them in the sacrifice which they suffered in the loss of their eldest son. Few men of Jackson county have had a more interesting or unselfishly useful career in the service of his fellowmen than Mr. Sloan.

**William Baldus**, 143 East College street, Independence, Mo., owner of a farm of 150 acres in Fort Osage township, is a native of Illinois. Mr. Baldus was born Sept. 21, 1887, and is a son of Joseph and Margaret (Hoffman) Baldus, residing at 916 North Main street, Independence.

Joseph Baldus removed from Illinois to Saline County, Missouri, in 1889, and engaged in farming there until 1909, when he sold out and came to Jackson County, purchasing a farm in Fort Osage township. In the summer of 1911 he sold his farm and moved to a home in Independence. He has reared a family of five sons and three daughters, as follow: George Baldus, a farmer in Lafayette County; Mrs. Margaret Buie, whose husband is a farmer in Saline County; Edward Baldus, a farmer, near Oak Grove, Jackson County; Fred Baldus, a student in William Jewell College; Frank and Cora, at home with their parents; and Mrs. Clara Lebow, Independence.

William Baldus was reared in Saline County, and was educated in the district schools. He began farming on his own account in 1911 on his place, consisting of 150 acres in Fort Osage township, and specialized in the raising of pure-bred Hereford cattle, descended from the original Lentz herd of Hereford. In 1919 he rented his farm and purchased a residence in Independence.

Mr. Baldus was married March 8, 1911, to Miss Myrtle Lentz, who was born on a farm near Atherton, Mo., Nov. 1, 1883, and is a daughter of Noah and Louisa (Kirby) Lentz, further mention of whom appears in this volume. Six children have been born to this marriage, as follow:

William Jewell, born Dec. 6, 1911; Joseph Ernest, born Dec. 6, 1912; Ida May, born July 17, 1914; Lou Belle, born April 13, 1916; Anna Myrtle, born Oct. 17, 1917; and Noah Thomas, born Sept. 21, 1919.

Mr. Baldus is a Republican. He is a progressive and enterprising citizen, a successful farmer and stockman, and has many warm friends among the people of his neighborhood.

**Edward J. Owen**, farmer and stockman, owner of a valuable farm of 152 acres in Sniabar township, is a native of Illinois. He was born in McLean County, Nov. 11, 1858, and is a son of Alma Owen, a sketch of whom is given in this volume with that of William F. Owen. Mr. Owen purchased his present home place in 1903. It was formerly the Clemons place. He has done considerable improving since coming into possession of the farm, and has erected two large concrete silos.

Edward J. Owen was eight years of age when his parents came from Illinois to Missouri. Three families formed the party. The other families were relatives of the Owens, named Clark and Burnham. Five wagons carried the travelers and their belongings. Mr. Owen brought along ten head of cows. There were three boys in the party, and a free-for-all fight ensued each night as to which of the boys should ride the old mare owned by Mr. Owen to the nearest water. After coming to Jackson County, Edward J. Owen attended the Owen school. He remained at home with his parents until 1883, and then located west of the Owen school house. He improved 60 acres and increased his holdings to 100 acres, and later moved to the farm where N. Powers now lives. He purchased his home farm in 1903.

Edward J. Owen was married in 1883 to Cassandra Johnson, a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Ware) Johnson. She was born in Clay County, March 31, 1865. Her father, Henry Johnson, was a native of Virginia, and came to Jackson County in the early thirties. He served in the Civil War with the Confederate Army, and after the war settled down to farming. Now, at the advanced age of 76 years, he is making his home with his children. Elizabeth, his wife, was born in 1837, and died in 1901. To Henry and Elizabeth Johnson were born nine children: Mrs. Cassandra Owen, of this review; Mrs. Irene Page, Montana; Mrs. Nettie Harris, Olathe, Kan.; Fred, Belvidere, Ill.; William, Nebraska; Mrs. Belle Hogue, Pink Hill, Mo.; Jesse, near Oakland church; Mrs. Josie Thomas, Independence; Thomas, Grain Valley.

The children born to Edward J. and Cassandra Owen are as follow: Mrs. Stella Riske, lives in Independence; Russell, lives near Lake City, and



married Pearl Perkins, who has borne his three children, Kate, Bernardine and Pauline; Mrs. Alta Zumalt, lives on the home place, has one child, Reba Covene.

Mr. Owen is a Republican, and Mrs. Owen is a Democrat. They are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Owen is a member of the Brotherhood of American Yeoman.

**James D. Wood**, the present capable steward of the Jackson County Home, is a native of Texas, although he has spent practically all his life in Jackson County, and for many years has been identified with the interests of this county. He was born in Terrant County, Texas, March 4, 1867, and is a son of James R. and Nancy (Chrisman) Wood.

James R. Wood was born in Virginia in 1824. In 1831, when he was seven years of age, he came to Jackson County, Missouri, with his parents, who settled on a farm in Sniabar township. Here he grew to manhood, and during the Civil War, he went to Texas with his family, where he was engaged in farming until 1867. He then returned to Jackson County, and bought land two and one-half miles northeast of Lees Summit. Here he was engaged in farming and stock raising until about a year prior to his death. He was quite an extensive mule dealer, and was successful in his business operations. At the time of his death, in 1893, he was the owner of 240 acres of land, which was divided among his children. His wife was also a native of Virginia, born in 1825. She died in 1892. They were the parents of five children, as follow: Mrs. Elizabeth Bisher, whose husband is now deceased, and she resides with her children at Lees Summit; Dr. M. P. Wood, a physician of Independence, Mo.; Pearce, married V. B. Snead, resides at Wichita, Kan.; Louvnie, married A. W. Williams, and they live in Iowa; and James D., the subject of this sketch.

James D. Wood was less than one year old when his parents returned from Texas to Jackson County. He was reared in this county, and received his early education in the district schools. Later he attended William Jewell College at Liberty, Mo., for two years. He then engaged in the hardware business at Lees Summit, and during the course of his career, he has devoted 18 or 20 years to the hardware business. In 1915, he was appointed steward of the Jackson County Home by the county court, and has ably and conscientiously filled that position to the present time.

Mr. Wood has been twice married. On March 28, 1890, he was united in marriage with Miss Betty Warren, a native of Johnson County, Missouri. She was a daughter of Thomas Warren, who came to Jackson



County about 1870, where he engaged in the grocery business. Mrs. Wood was born July 28, 1870, and died Oct. 26, 1894, leaving one daughter, Ursula, now the wife of H. B. Jennings, of Cass County, Missouri. June 7, 1907, Mr. Wood was married to Laura Day, a native of Saline County, Missouri, and a daughter of John Day, who was a native of Ohio, and settled in Saline County, where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. Mrs. Wood died Dec. 15, 1914. No children were born to this marriage.

Mr. Wood is a Democrat, and a member of the Baptist church. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

**Hon. James Monroe Adams.**—"The brightest man in eastern Jackson County," was the tribute once paid to the late Col. J. M. Adams, of Fort Osage township, by one of his admirers. The man who made the statement was William H. Wallace, who paid a tribute to Mr. Adams on the occasion of his making a speech at Buckner, and after expressing his desire that Mr. Adams come to hear him he added the foregoing remark. Legislator, lawyer, justice of the peace, newspaper writer of more than local fame, J. M. Adams and his accomplishments will always figure prominently in the history of Jackson County. He was born on a pioneer farm near Atherton, Mo., Nov. 13, 1833, and died at his home south of Buckner, Mo., in November, 1916.

Lynchburg Adams, his father, was practically the first pioneer settler to establish a permanent home in Fort Osage township. He was born near Lynchburg, Va., Feb. 22, 1804, and married Elizabeth Drake, who was born in Howard County, Mo., Dec. 7, 1808. She was a daughter of Isaac Drake, a soldier of the Revolutionary War, in whose memory a monument was erected near Atherton by the Daughters of the American Revolution. Lynchburg Adams came to Jackson County, March 20, 1819, and located near Sibley, in Fort Osage township, where he was married, Nov. 1, 1827. He entered land in the Blue bottoms later, and resided there until his death, Dec. 6, 1873. His wife died Jan. 24, 1859. They had five children, four sons and a daughter, James M. being the fourth in order of birth. The first farm upon which Mr. Adams settled upon has long been engulfed and carried away by the ever changeful Missouri River. The old Adams homestead of 320 acres, which Mr. Adams purchased in 1844, was located near Atherton.

J. M. Adams was reared on the home farm, and assisted his father until he had attained his majority. He studied for two years in Chapel



HON. J. M. ADAMS.





Hill College, in Jackson County, and spent one year in the University of Missouri, and was graduated at Jones' Mercantile College in St. Louis.

During the Civil War he served as a member of Company G, Colonel Reeves regiment, the company being commanded by Captain Kemper, and attached to Gen. Sterling Price's division. He took part in the Battle of Pea Ridge, and shortly after was obliged to leave the army on account of ill health. He then returned to Jackson County, and afterwards went to Clay County, where he taught school for a year. At the close of the war he returned to Jackson County, and took up the life of a farmer. He also carried on general merchandising at Pink Hill for eight years, and then located in Fort Osage township, upon his farm of 150 acres, and there made his home until his death. For 12 years Mr. Adams was numbered among the successful teachers of Jackson County. He was married April 5, 1859, to Miss Annie E. Nottingham, daughter of Jacob and Margaret (Fickel) Nottingham, natives of Virginia. Mrs. Adams was born April 1, 1838; in Lafayette County, Mo., but was reared at Blue Mills, near Ather-ton, in Fort Osage township. The children born of this marriage are: Lynchburg B., born Feb. 13, 1860; John W., born 1862; Cozzette, born 1864, wife of James A. Hensley, Denver, Colo.; Mrs. Bessie Biggerstaff, born 1866, Pleasant Hill, Mo.; Mrs. Fannie Byrd, born 1868, lives in Kansas City; James, Jr., born 1870, deputy sheriff, Kansas City; Arthur, born 1870, an attorney, Kansas City; Avonia, born 1874, wife of Charles Adams, California; Emmett born 1876; Ottis, a farmer in Sniabar township; Carl, born 1880, an attorney in Kansas City.

James M. Adams originally owned 520 acres, but sold off much of this tract, and at the time of his death he left 140 acres as his estate. He was a thorough Democrat, who was frequently honored with public office. In 1859 he was elected justice of the peace. He was appointed notary public under Gov. B. G. Brown, and was reappointed by each succeeding governor for a number of years. In November, 1884, he was elected to the State Legislature, and served one term. Senator George Vest said of him in this respect: "He was the brightest man in the State Legislature." When a member of the legislature, Mr. Adams made the speech which nominated Vest for the Senate. The Senator never forgot this service, and when Cleveland was elected President and in office, the Senator asked Cleveland for an appointment for his friend Adams. Cleveland said to Vest: "Senator, I don't know this man Adams, Is he capable?" Senator Vest replied: "Mr. President, he can fill your position better than you, yourself. He can fill any position from Senator to Pres-

ident." Mr. Adams got the appointment, that of assistant internal revenue collector at Kansas City, under Hasbrook, and held the position for four years. In the fall of 1878, John W. Booth was elected constable of Kaw township, and Judge Adams became one of his bondsmen. Six months later Booth resigned, and Mr. Adams was appointed to this position and held it for 12 years. This office was, at that time, an important one. After the expiration of his term of constable, Mr. Adams returned to his farm. Governor Marmaduke, when he took office, sent for him to come to Jefferson City, and told him that he was going to appoint him to one of the best positions in the State, because he was worthy of it, and capable of filling this position. Two days before it was time for the governor to sign the legal papers certifying to the appointment the governor died. For over 20 years Mr. Adams served as justice of the peace, and practiced law for many years. He was well versed in legal procedure, and was an accomplished orator and public speaker, who could express himself upon any subject convincingly, learnedly and well. He was quick in repartee and agile minded. He was noted as a newspaper contributor, and wrote for such papers as the Independence "Sentinel" and the Oak Grove "Banner." He was a splendid letter writer. This accomplishment excited the wonder and admiration of friends and opponents alike. His versatility in this respect won for his son, L. B. Adams, the appointment of postmaster at Buckner.

Colonel Adams was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He was a stalwart champion of all matters of public improvement, and every worthy cause received his full and unswerving support. He was a Royal Arch Mason, and served as worshipful master of Buckner Lodge, No. 501. He was a charter member of Buckner Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and was liberal in his contributions. He practically built the Pink Hill Methodist Church, paying \$600 out of his own purse for the erection of the building. At one time Colonel Adams was a man of considerable wealth, but lost considerable money through his inability to deny a friend who sought his assistance. His purse was always open to his friends, and so ill advised were some of his ventures in indorsing notes for needy friends that he lost at one time over \$15,000 in bad notes and loans. He was one of the finest characters of Jackson County, and every good citizen was his friend. Colonel Southern once said of Mr. Adams: "Colonel Adams was the most popular man in Jackson County."

Lynchburg Adams carried the chain which marked out the boun-



daries of Jackson County, and received 50 cents per day for his labor. He saved \$150, and bought a claim at Atherton for \$200, earning the balance of the purchase price by selling honey, deer and coon hides. He became very wealthy, selling his first farm for \$2,000 after two years ownership. He then paid \$1,000 for 280 acres in 1844.

Lynchburg B. Adams, who is managing the Adams home place in Fort Osage township, is a lawyer of ability, and in many respects resembles his father. He was educated in Morrisville College, and graduated from the Kansas City Law School in 1890. He practiced law in Kansas City for ten years, and was successful in his practice. Ill health and the admonition of his physician that if he expected to live many years, caused him to give up his law practice, and return to the home farm, where he has regained his health and is caring for his aged mother. Mr. Adams served four years as postmaster of Buckner, under President Wilson. He takes an active part in county politics, and is one of the "wheel horses" of the Democratic party in eastern Jackson County.

**Martin F. Leinweber**, a progressive and well known farmer and stock breeder of Prairie township, is a native of Illinois. He was born in Mason County, Ill., April 4, 1876, and is a son of Martin and Katherine (Rigle) Leinweber, the former now deceased, and the latter residing in Prairie township, Jackson County. A more complete history of the Leinweber family appears in connection with the sketch of John R. Leinweber, which appears in this volume.

Martin F. Leinweber received his early education in the district schools, and from early life was trained to the duties and details of farming and stock raising. He remained at home with his parents until he was 22 years of age and after the death of his father, he inherited 200 acres of valuable land. Since that time he has made improvements on his farm and increased his acreage until he is the owner of 260 acres in Prairie township. Here he carries on general farming and stock raising and for the past six years has specialized in breeding Shorthorn cattle. He has some excellent stock of this strain and is recognized as one of the successful breeders of Jackson County.

On Sept. 4, 1904, Mr. Leinweber was united in marriage with Miss Lula H. Ritter, native of Jackson County, Missouri, and a daughter of William and Mildred (Cantrell) Ritter, the former a native of Missouri and the latter of Kentucky. They were early settlers in Jackson County. To Mr. and Mrs. Leinweber have been born two children as follows: Mildred and Roberta, both of whom are at home with their parents.



In 1901 Mrs. Leinweber began teaching in the district schools of Jackson County and taught three years. She graduated from Lees Summit High School and later attended the State Normal School at Warrensburg, Mo.

Mr. Leinweber is a Democrat and a member of the Lutheran church. He is a stockholder in the Citizens Bank of Lees Summit, and the Drovers Packing Plant of Kansas City, Mo., and one of Jackson County's successful citizens, who by keen foresight and constant industry is accomplishing things.

**Robert George Wilson, Jr.**, a prominent citizen of Lees Summit, Mo., has been prominently identified with the affairs of Jackson County since early manhood. Mr. Wilson is a native of this county. He was born at Independence, Feb. 14, 1852, and has practically spent his life in Jackson County. His parents were Robert George and Louisa (McMurray) Wilson, both natives of Boyles County, Kentucky, and among the prominent early settlers of Jackson County. Robert George Wilson, Sr., was born at Danville, Ky., in January, 1820. He followed farming in early life in his native State, and in 1851, came to Jackson County, Missouri, first locating at Independence. In 1852, he bought a farm in Prairie township, where he was engaged in farming and stock raising until 1886, when he retired and moved to Kansas City, spending the remainder of his life there. He died in 1911. During his active career, he was prominent in the affairs of Jackson County, and was one of the widely known men of this section of the State. He took a keen interest and a prominent part in politics, although he never aspired to hold political office himself, and was never a candidate for public office, preferring to assist his friends in the realization of their political ambitions. One of his main sports and pastimes was wolf hunts. He made many friends during the course of his career, and was known far and wide for his keen sense of humor and ever ready joke. The Wilsons were of English descent. Robert George Wilson, Sr., was a son of Samuel Wilson, who settled in Kentucky at a very early date. Louisa (McMurray) Wilson, mother of Robert George Wilson, Jr., was born in Danville, Ky., and was the daughter of James and (Miss Rice) McMurray.

Robert George Wilson, Jr., was reared in Jackson County, and received his education in the George Bryant School of Independence, Mo., and Westminster College of Fulton, Mo. He remained on the home farm until the fall of 1873. In 1874, he was appointed deputy county clerk of Jackson County, and for six years capably performed the duties of that

office. He then resided in Kansas City until 1882, when he was appointed county collector by the governor of the State to serve out the unexpired term of Joe Green. At the expiration of that term, he was elected county collector, and re-elected to succeed himself, serving two terms. In 1887, he returned to his farm in Prairie township, where he remained but a short time, however, when he returned to Kansas City, but shortly afterwards returned to his farm, and since that time has continued his interest in farming and stock breeding with uniform success. For years he has been a successful breeder of Aberdeen Angus cattle. In 1905, he moved to Lees Summit, where he has since resided, although he has continued his active interest in his stock raising operations. He is the owner of one of the splendid farms of Jackson County. It consists of 530 acres of highly improved and valuable land, and adjoins the Longview Farms on the east. Mr. Wilson served three years as postmaster of Lees Summit, serving in that capacity until December, 1918, when he resigned.

Sept. 30, 1885, Robert George Wilson, Jr., and Miss Anna Waugh, of Chariton County, Missouri, were united in marriage. Her parents were early settlers in that section of the State, and were natives of Virginia. To Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have been born five children, as follow: Frances, Mary, Robert G., Jr., Thomas E., and Louise, all of whom reside at home with their parents, except Robert G., Jr., who is deceased. Thomas E. was in training at Camp Pike, Ark., during the World War, and after the signing of the armistice, was discharged and returned home.

Mr. Wilson is a Democrat and a member of the Presbyterian church. He has a broad acquaintance, and is one of the well and favorably known men of Jackson County.

**James A. Dark**, now living retired at Lees Summit, has been identified with Jackson County for more than 50 years. He was born at Pine Hill, Ontario, Canada, son of Edwin and Caroline Herron Dark, and was one of 10 children born to them, as follows Eliza Ann, married Jerry Wood and is now deceased; William C., deceased; Henry lives in Blue township, Jackson County; James A., the subject of this sketch; John M., Prairie township; Hannah married M. W. Dunnington, Drexel, Mo.; Elizabeth married S. C. Munns, and resides near San Jose, Calif.; Thomas E., deceased; and two children died in infancy.

Edwin Dark was born in England, Feb., 1822, and in 1833 when 11 years of age, he went to Canada with his parents. He remained in Canada until 1862 and after spending some time in Iowa and Missouri, he came to Jackson County in 1866 and with his family settled on a farm



in Prairie township, where he bought 180 acres of land, 40 acres of which was timber. Here he was engaged in farming until the time of his death Sept. 6, 1876. He was a Democrat and member of the Baptist church. His wife was also a native of England, born in 1824, died Feb. 9, 1900.

James A. Dark spent his active career in farming and stock raising in Jackson County and in 1903 he retired and since that time has resided at Lees Summit. He owns a good farm of 80 acres of land in Prairie township.

James A. Dark was married March 30, 1876, to Josephine Hart Ritter, who was born in Linn County, Kan. and came to Jackson County from Texas with her parents in 1867. To James A. Dark and wife have been born the following children: William, a sketch of whom appears in this volume; Mary Dora, married H. H. Doudna, Prairie township and Charles D., Kansas City, Mo. Mr. Dark is a Republican and a member of the Baptist church.

William H. Dark, of Prairie township, is well known throughout Jackson County as an extensive farmer and successful breeder of Shorthorn cattle. Mr. Dark is a native son of Jackson County, and was born in Prairie township, Jan. 22, 1877. He is a son of James A. and Josephine (Ritter) Dark, a sketch of whom appears in this volume.

William H. Dark was reared on the home farm in Prairie township, and attended the district school. He became familiar with farming in early life, to which he has devoted himself to the present time, and has met with success. He now owns 230 acres of land, a part of which Mrs. Dark inherited from her father's estate. Mr. Dark has made extensive improvements on the place, including a fine modern residence, which he built in 1911. He carries on general farming and stock raising, and for the past five years has been a breeder of Shorthorn cattle, and has some very fine stock of this strain on his place.

Mr. Dark was married Nov. 26, 1903 to Miss Clara Leinweber, a native of Mason County, Ill., and a daughter of Martin and Katherine Leinweber. A more extensive history of the Leinweber family appears in this volume in connection with the sketch of John Leinweber, who is a brother of Mrs. Dark. To Mr. and Mrs. Dark have been born five children, as follows: Leonard E., Mabel Lorene, William M., James A., and Evert E., all of whom reside at home with their parents.

Mr. Dark is a Republican and a member of the Baptist church. He is a stockholder in the Citizens Bank of Lees Summit and widely and favorably known in Jackson County.



Levi V. Tudor, a successful dairyman of Prairie township, who is also a breeder of Jersey and Shorthorn cattle, was born in Ross County, Ohio, March 27, 1855. He is a son of Miles C. and Mary (Thorp) Tudor, who were the parents of 13 children as follows: John, deceased; George W., deceased; Milton, resides in Colorado; Levi V., the subject of this sketch; Thomas, deceased; Mary, married Ed Constable, Lees Summit, Mo.; Edward, Independence, Mo.; Hannah, married Henry Davis, Lees Summit, Mo.; Daniel, deceased; Charles, Greenwood, Mo.; Mrs. Ida Sollers, St. Joseph, Mo., and two died in infancy.

Miles C. Tudor was a native of Virginia and when a small boy, removed to Ohio with his parents. He was the son of William Tudor and the Tudor family is of English extraction. In 1869, Miles C. Tudor came to Jackson County, Mo., and bought 120 acres of land, three miles east of Lees Summit, for which he paid \$50 per acre. He operated this place for 15 years, when he sold out and moved to Lees Summit and spent the remainder of his life there. He died in 1901 at the advanced age of 84 years. Mary (Thorp) Tudor, his wife, died in 1899, at Lees Summit.

Levi V. Tudor was 14 years of age, when he came to Jackson County, Mo. with his parents. He received his education in the district schools and since he was 18 years old, he has shifted for himself. He began as a farm hand and later operated rented land and his first investment was two lots in Lees Summit. About that time he was married, built a home in Lees Summit, and began operating a farm near Lone Jack, which was owned by his father-in-law. He sold his Lees Summit property and invested in teams and farming implements. In 1898, Mr. Tudor purchased his present place, which then consisted of 80 acres, at \$25 per acre. He sold 40 acres of this place and later added 20 and is now the owner of 60 acres of valuable land which is well adapted to general farming, as well as the dairy and stock business. His place is well improved, including a modern residence, which he built in 1912. He has been in the dairy business for the past 17 years. He has 22 head of milch cows and his place is equipped with modern dairy fixtures and he uses modern methods. He has his own cream separator and utilizes the skim milk to a profitable advantage by feeding a herd of hogs, which is always maintained on the place. He is also successful as a breeder of Jersey and Shorthorn cattle.

March 1, 1895, Mr. Tudor was united in marriage with Miss Emma Henderickson, a native of Indiana and a daughter of Rev. John Henderickson, who was a Baptist minister. The Henderickson family went to Kansas in the pioneer days of that state and John Henderickson entered 160

acres from the government, where the town of Lincoln Center, Kan. now stands. In 1866, they came to Jackson County, when Mrs. Tudor was a young child. To Mr. and Mrs. Tudor have been born four daughters, as follow: Mamie T., married Charles Muckey, Prairie township; Minnie Ruth, married Weller Talley, Lees Summit; Georgia A. and Katie, both reside at home with their parents.

Mr. Tudor is a Democrat and a member of the Methodist church.

**Samuel H. Stock**, proprietor of 160 acres of Missouri River bottom land, near Levasy, Fort Osage township, is a native of Warren County, Mo. Mr. Stock was born March 3, 1867, and is a son of Frederick and Louisa (Fosse) Stock, both of whom were natives of Germany. Frederick Stock was born in 1823, and died in 1911. His wife, Louisa, was born in 1830, and died in 1905. The elder Stock was twice married. He emigrated from Germany to America in 1846, with his first wife, who died some time after the birth of his first child, August, deceased. He was married to Louisa Fosse in Warren County, and to this marriage were born children as follows: Paullina Meyer, Blackburn, Mo.; Minnie, deceased; Henry, a retired farmer, of Levasy, Mo.; Mrs. Johanna Peters, who died at Henderson, Neb.; Samuel H., of this review; Charles, deceased. Frederick Stock sold out his holdings in Warren County in 1892, and came to Jackson County, where he owned a farm. He died at the home of his son, Henry Stock.

Samuel H. Stock was reared to young manhood in Warren County, and came to Jackson County in 1889. He rented a farm during his first year, and then bought 70 acres, where his son now lives. There were no improvements on this farm but a small shack, and Mr. Stock went to work and erected the existing improvements on the place. He purchased his present home place in 1903, the year of the great flood, when the Missouri River bottoms were under water from the overflow. He has erected a cattle barn and a milch cow barn, and made other good improvements on the place.

Two immense walnut trees in the front yard are a feature of the Stock place. It is probable that they are the largest trees of the kind in this part of Missouri, of immense girth and wide spreading branches they present an imposing sight to the tree lover.

Mr. Stock was married in 1890 to Laura Schaberg, born in Warren County, a daughter of John W. Schaberg, who came to Jackson County in 1884, and died here in 1910, aged 76 years. His wife, Lucetta (Dreimeyer) Schaberg, was born in 1840, and died in 1908.





SAMUEL H. STOCK AND FAMILY.





The children of Samuel H. and Laura Stock are: John, born Oct. 4, 1892, lives a half mile north of the home place; Mrs. Ella Schropshire, born Oct. 6, 1894, lives three miles northwest; Walter, born Sept. 20, 1897; Julia, born Oct. 28, 1902. John Stock has one child, Mae Pearl.

Mr. Stock is independent in his politics, and votes for the man, regardless of his political party. He is a member of the Evangelical church of Levasy. He has decided ideas about patriotism and love of country, and believes emphatically that the sentiment of no American citizen can be divided between two countries. He is in favor of one language for Americans, and that the American language—one flag, one set of ideals, and those should be the ideals of America, the land where he has reared a family, and where he has accumulated a competence.

**Hartman Hoke**, a well known farmer and stock raiser of Prairie township, although a native of Pennsylvania, has spent the greater part of his life in Jackson County. He was born in Franklin County, Pa., Dec. 24, 1863. His parents were William and Harriet (Dickhout) Hoke, both also natives of Franklin County, Pa. They were the parents of 12 children, eight of whom grew to maturity as follows: Hartman, the subject of this sketch; George, Van Buren township; Jennie, married Robert Gillette, Independence; Jacob, Vale, Mo.; Charles, resides on the home farm in Prairie township; Sherman, deceased; Everett lives on the home place also and Benjamin, Prairie township.

William Hoke was born in Franklin County, Pa., 1841; and his wife was born in the same county in 1843. The family moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio in 1865, and in 1881 came to Jackson County, Mo. and settled on a farm and both parents spent the remainder of their lives here. The father died in 1904, and the mother survived him about 15 years, departing this life in February, 1919.

Hartman Hoke attended the public schools in Ohio and after coming to Jackson County, was a student in the Lees Summit public school. He has made farming his life occupation, beginning his independent farming operation on rented land in 1886. In 1900, he bought his present place which consists of 80 acres of well improved land. He has been generally successful in his undertakings and is a stockholder and one of the directors in the Citizens Bank of Lees Summit.

Mr. Hoke was married June 9, 1887 to Miss Della Norvell, a native of Jackson County, Mo. She is a daughter of Benjamin F. Norvell, whose wife bore the maiden name of Mary Ann Risk. They settled in Jackson County about 1866, and here the father followed farming and stock rais-

ing. To Mr. and Mrs. Hoke have been born the following children: Grace, married H. Fowlks, and died leaving one son, Howard Fowlks; Mrs. Mamie A. Browning, deceased; Fred, deceased, and William F., now in the Rolla School of Mines at Rolla, Mo.

Mr. Hoke is a Democrat and attends the German Reform church. He is widely and favorably known in Jackson County and the Hoke family stands high in the community.

**James D. Thomas**, a well to do farmer and stockman and progressive citizen of Prairie township, is a native of Virginia and a descendant of old Virginia stock. He was born near Scottsville, Va., May 11, 1858, and is a son of R. V. and Christian E. (Bragg) Thomas, who were the parents of the following children: John, who now resides in Virginia; James D., the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Sarah E. Bragg, deceased; and Robert J., who resides in Jackson County, Mo.

R. V. Thomas was born in Virginia, where he was engaged in farming and spent his entire life in his native state. He was born in 1809 and died in 1890, thus reaching the ripe old age of 81 years. He was a son of William, who was also a native of Virginia and spent his entire life in that state. He was a farmer by occupation. Christian E. (Bragg) Thomas, mother of James D. Thomas, was a native of Virginia, and spent her entire life in that state. She was born March 24, 1832 and was a daughter of John Bragg, whose wife bore the maiden name of Griffin. They were both natives of Virginia. The Thomas family suffered much hardship and many privations during the Civil War in Virginia. They were stripped of all they had in the way of sustenance, on frequent occasions by the soldiers and were left absolutely destitute.

James D. Thomas received a limited education in the district schools and grew to manhood in his native state. In 1888, he came to Jackson County. Here he began as a farm hand and later began to operate rented land. When he settled in Jackson County, he had a wife and one child and his entire capital consisted of \$50.00, but he was industrious and ambitious and by hard work and close attention to the details of his farming operations, he has made good. In 1907, he bought his present place in Prairie township. He has made improvements and now has one of the valuable and improved farms of 120 acres in that locality.

Mr. Thomas was married Dec. 23, 1885, to Miss Gazelle Beal of Albermarle County, Va. She is a daughter of Winfield S. and Permelia (Kidd) Beal, natives of Virginia. To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have been born eight children: Grace, married Lee Templeton, Henderson, Col.; Waverly, a



farmer and stockman, of Van Buren township; Mrs. Emma Van Dyke, Prairie township, Jackson County; James, Prairie township; Inez, married H. Kreger, Prairie township; Elmer, Kansas City, Mo.; Ralph, resides at home and Alfonso, also resides at home with his parents.

Mr. Thomas is a Democrat, a member of the Methodist church, and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. He is public spirited and a representative of Jackson County's best citizenship.

**Robert Emery Ritter**, a prosperous farmer and stockman and the owner of a well improved farm of 186 acres, is a member of one of the pioneer families of Jackson County. He was born on a farm in Prairie township, June 14, 1880, and is the son of John Luther and Rebecca (Osborn) Ritter.

John Luther Ritter was also a native of Jackson County, born in 1852, a son of Henry and Martha Ritter, and was one of nine children born to his parents. He was 13 years old when the Civil War broke out and the Ritter family, like many others in this section, left the scenes of carnage and devastation incident to the war and went to Texas and during their stay there for three years, life was a struggle for existence and they endured many hardships. Mr. Ritter, when a boy, made his own shoes out of furs and horse collars out of straw. At the close of the war, the family returned to Jackson County and here John Luther Ritter engaged in farming. He broke prairie with ox teams and worked hard, and finally success came. His first home was a log cabin which in time was succeeded by a more pretentious dwelling. At the time of his death, May 7, 1905, he was well-to-do and the owner of 260 acres of land. He was a prominent Mason and a member of the Baptist church and one of the organizers of that denomination in this locality. He was a Democrat and took a keen interest and a prominent part in political affairs and was frequently a delegate to his party conventions. His wife was a native of Iowa, born at Cedar Point, Jan. 1, 1850 and died Aug. 1, 1915. They were the parents of three children, as follow: Bert, resides at Mt. Washington, Mo.; Robert Emery, the subject of this sketch; and Harry of Prairie township. The mother was first married to Charles Williams and two children were born to that marriage; Henry Williams and Bud Marion Williams, deceased.

Robert Emery Ritter spent his boyhood days on the home farm and attended the district school. At the age of 24, he began farming on rented land and in 1913, he bought 66 acres of land, which is a part of

his present farm of 186 acres. He has made extensive improvements and has a well kept and productive farm.

June 26, 1904, Robert Emery Ritter was united in marriage with Emma Katherine Leinweber, a native of Mason County, Ill., and a daughter of Martin and Katherine Leinweber. For a more complete history of the Leinweber family, see sketch of John R. Leinweber, which appears in this volume. Mrs. Ritter is the owner of 160 acres of land, which she inherited from her father's estate.

Mr. Ritter is a member of the Baptist church and is a Democrat. He holds membership in the Modern Woodmen of America and is a progressive and public spirited citizen.

**James F. Harris**, one of the well known farmers and stockmen of Prairie township, is a representative of Jackson County's very earliest pioneer families, who have been identified with this section of Missouri since 1830. William Harris, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, came here from Virginia with his family. James F. Harris is a native son of Jackson County, and was born on a farm in Sniabar township, July 5, 1856. He is a son of John H. and Louisa (Bridges) Harris, who were the parents of four children, as follow: Mrs. Betty Hutchings, a widow, residing in Kansas City, Mo.; James F., the subject of this sketch; Effie, married D. D. Shawhan, Cass County, Mo. and William, deceased. After the death of the mother of these children, John H. Harris married Louisa J. Powell, of Blue township, Jackson County, and to this union six children were born, as follow: Mrs. Mattie McCloud, Monegaw Springs, Mo.; Mrs. Edna Canada, Van Buren township; Alpha, married Joe Thomas, Van Buren township; Fred, Van Buren township; May, married Charles Hendricks and they reside near Lee Summit; and Rosa, married N. Corder, Prairie township.

John H. Harris, the father of James F., was also a native of Jackson County. He was born in Blue township, about three miles south of Independence, July 20, 1843. He was a son of William and Rhoda Harris, who were natives of Patrick County, Va., and settled in Jackson County, in 1830. William Harris was among the very first settlers in this section. He had the second deed recorded which was placed on record in Jackson County. There are many descendants of William and Rhoda Harris in this country, and the Harris family very appropriately holds the family reunion each year. These reunions are held regularly on the second Sunday of September, which are largely attended by the numerous members of this pioneer family. The attendance ranges from 300 to 600 mem-



bers of the family. There are about 718 relatives who are descendants of William Harris. The family of Harris reunion was organized by James F. Harris, May 6, 1911, and he was elected chairman of the organization at that time and has since served in that capacity.

John H. Harris, father of James F., was one of the widely known and successful farmers and stock breeders of Jackson County. In fact, he was one of the pioneer stock breeders of this state. He was a breeder of Chester White hogs, Shorthorn cattle, Cotswool sheep and jacks and jennies. He frequently made exhibits of his stock at fairs and stock shows of the country. He was the owner of the jack which won the first prize in the two year old class at the World's Fair and second prize at the grand sweepstakes. Mr. Harris raised two jacks which won the first and second prizes at the Worlds Fair at Omaha, Neb.

John H. Harris had an interesting career, filled with experiences and incidents of early day life in the west. During the Civil War and just before Order No. 11 went into effect, he went west across the plains and settled on the south Platte River, about 80 miles from Denver. He was engaged in carrying the United States mail by stage coach from Atchison, Kan., to Sacramento, Cal., at the time that the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians went on the warpath. When the Sioux Indians were advancing on Camp Sanborn from the direction of Denver, Mr. Harris, with 18 or 20 other men, crossed the Platte River, where they converted an adobe house into a fort, making port holes in it and took their positions to defend themselves against the Indians. Mr. Harris' family and four other families were in the improvised fort. He was elected captain and after the Indians were turned back, he went to Denver with his family, where he remained about two months, when he returned to Atchinson, Kan., with a freighting outfit, bringing his family with him. He bought a span of mules at Atchison and returned to Jackson County with his family. Here he engaged in farming and stockraising and met with a considerable degree of success and at the time of his death, Sept. 23, 1918, he was worth about \$70,000. His land was divided between his children, who received 80 acres each.

James F. Harris was reared on his father's farm in Jackson County and thus became familiar with farming and stock raising at an early age. He attended the public schools and has made farming the principal occupation of his life. He is now the owner of 80 acres, which was a part of his father's homestead, and he is successfully carrying on farming and stock raising. Mr. Harris was married October 7, 1880, to Miss Lizzie J.



Hackler, a native of Jackson County, born June 5, 1862, near Hickman Mills. She is a daughter of Martin and Elizabeth (Jennings) Hackler, natives of Virginia. Martin Hackler was a Confederate veteran of the Civil War, serving under Gen. Sterling Price and was twice taken prisoner by the Federals. He served for six months in the prison at Westport. He was a very early settler in Jackson County, coming here in 1834. He was twice married and to his first marriage seven children were born, all of whom are now dead. Mrs. Harris is one of four children born to his second marriage. To Mr. and Mrs. Harris have been born three children, as follow: Mrs. Ruth Fristoe, Sniabar township: Carl, Kansas City, Kan.; and John H., Jr.

Mr. Harris is a member of the Methodist church and is a Democrat. He has been a member of the Knights of Pythias, at Lees Summit, for over thirty years. He is one of Jackson County's leading citizens and is widely and favorably known.

**Columbus T. Fowlkes**, a successful farmer and stockman of Prairie township, has been identified with Jackson County and its development for over 50 years. He was born in Surrey County, N. C., Jan., 1847, and is a son of Charles G. and Amanda (Toliver) Fowlkes, to whom were born the following children: Columbus T., the subject of this sketch; Patience F., married E. Cole and is now a widow, residing in Allegheny County, N. C.; Rebecca C., married Cyrus Bullock, and is now a widow residing at Shawnee, Okla.; Tabitha, married E. Sturgill and is also a widow, residing in Allegheny County, N. C.; Phoebe E., Allegheny County, N. C.; William, a Baptist minister, Allegheny County, N. C.; Sarah A., married Jesse J. Waddwell, Allegheny County, N. C.; Charles S., Stonington, Colorado; Amanda A. Geneva, married J. T. Evans and lives in Maryland and one child died in infancy.

Charles G. Fowlkes, the father, was born in Carrol County, Va., July 2, 1822, and died in North Carolina in 1914. He was a physician and received his medical education in the Cincinnati Medical College. He practiced in Virginia for a number of years and later went to North Carolina where he continued the practice of medicine and spent the remainder of his life. He was a successful and skilled physician. He was the son of William Fowlkes, of White Sulphur Springs, Va.

Amanda M. (Toliver) Fowlkes, mother of Columbus T., was also a native of North Carolina, born Feb. 22, 1824, and died in 1905. She was a daughter of Charles Tolliver, a native of North Carolina, who was a son of John Toliver, also a native of North Carolina, who lived to be 103 years

old. The Toliver family came from Italy and were founded in America by two brothers, George and Charles Toliver, who were expelled from that country by the Catholic authorities on account of their religious convictions. They came to this country at a very early date and there are many descendants of these two brothers in the United States.

Columbus T. Fowlkes came to Jackson County, June 22, 1869, driving through to his destination. He brought with him a very fine stallion, which he rode part of the way. This horse belonged to his uncle, Allen Wagoner. Mr. Fowlkes began his career in Jackson County as a farm hand, receiving \$20 per month. The first winter he spent here, he was employed by Jewell Lipscomb, feeding cattle. He purchased a farm of 56 acres in 1892 and later added to it until he now owns 148 acres. He has made improvements and has a very valuable farm upon which he carries on general farming and stock raising and has met with success.

Mr. Fowlkes was married March 26, 1873 with Miss Sarah A. Giffin, a native of West Virginia. She died in 1880, aged 24 years, leaving four children as follows: Hattie married H. Keine, St. Joseph, Mo.; Margaret E., married Robert L. McCary, Prairie township; Moettie, married Charles Wilburn, Cass County, Mo.; and William T., deceased. Mr. Fowlkes was married the second time, in 1884, to Lydia F. Haukenberry, a native of Illinois and to this union seven children were born, as follow: Etta May married J. W. Snodgrass, Grain Valley, Mo.; Harrison T., who is connected with the Citizens National Bank at Lees Summit; Nellie, married Charles Wyatt and lives in Sniabar township; Elsie E., married R. L. Trapp, Kansas City, Mo.; one child died in infancy; Ray M., at home with his parents and Mrs. Flossie M. Welch, Kansas City, Mo.

Mr. Fowlkes is a member of the Presbyterian church and is a Mason.

**Robert Kissel**, the well known president of the Bank of Greenwood, and for many years a leading farmer and stockman of that vicinity, has been identified with the interests of Jackson County for nearly 40 years. He was born in Lycoming County, Pa., in Sept., 1848, and is a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Lutz) Kissel, both natives of Pennsylvania. They were the parents of seven children, three of whom are now living, and Robert is the only one residing in Jackson County. The Kissel family removed from Pennsylvania to St. Louis, Mo. and four years later moved to Madison County, Ill., where they remained until 1882, when Robert Kissel came to Jackson County. The parents came West a few years later and both spent the remainder of their lives in the vicinity of Greenwood. The father died about 1900, at the age of 80 years.



Robert Kissel spent his boyhood days on a farm in Madison County, Ill., where his parents settled when he was six years old, and shortly after coming to Jackson County, in 1882, he bought 80 acres of land south of Greenwood. He improved this place and added additional acreage from time to time until he became the owner of a splendid farm of 266 acres which he still owns. He carried on farming and stock raising, and prospered. In 1912, he retired from the farm and moved to Greenwood. However, his interest in business and other affairs has not ceased. In 1903, he was one of the organizers of the bank of Greenwood, and at the organization of that institution he was elected vice-president and later became its president, which position he still holds.

Mr. Kissel has been twice married. His first wife bore the maiden name of Melissa Williams and she was born and reared in Madison County, Ill. To this marriage were born four children, as follows: Robert, who now conducts an auto livery business at Greenwood; Samuel, who is operating the home place; Charles, deceased; and Ella, married George Esterline, and lives in Madison County, Ill. The mother of these children died in Macupin County, Ill. and Mr. Kissel was later married to Miss Nancy Shade, a native of Virginia. Five children were born to this marriage, as follow: Minnie, resides at home with her parents; Vollie, deceased; Clarence, Kansas City, Mo.; Grace Ecton, Kansas City, Mo.; and Harry, Kansas City, Mo.

Mr. Kissel is a Republican and a member of the Baptist church, of which he is one of the trustees. He takes a keen interest in public affairs and for a number of years has served as a member of the local school board. He is a substantial citizen and well-to-do and what success has come to him has been through his own industry and business foresight.

**John H. Schuster**, president of the Bank of Levasy, owner of 320 acres of rich Missouri River valley land in Fort Osage township, was born in Warren County, Mo., July 16, 1869. He is a son of Frederick W. and Elizabeth (Brown) Schuster, natives of Germany.

Frederick W. Schuster was born in 1834, and died in 1911. He was a son of Frederick Schuster, who emigrated from Germany to America in 1842, and settled in Warren County. Elizabeth Schuster was born in 1842, and died in 1915. She accompanied her parents to America in 1855. F. W. Schuster sold out his holdings in Warren County in 1889, and came to Jackson County. He purchased a splendid tract of land, improved it with a large residence and barns, and reared a family of children as follows: Frank, living at Pleasant Hill, Mo.; Minnie, deceased; Mrs. Alvina





J. H. SCHUSTER.



Duebbert, living on the adjoining farm; Mrs. Emma Stoner, Lafayette County; and John H., of this review. The last two named are twins.

John H. Schuster cared for his parents in their old age, and came into possession of the Schuster homestead through inheritance, and purchase of the interests of the other heirs. He has prospered, and is one of the substantial and well-to-do farmers of Jackson County. He has served as president of the Bank of Levasy since 1914. Nov. 6, 1919, he purchased 80 acres of land adjoining his 240-acre farm. Mr. Schuster's homestead raised a corn crop averaging 60 bushels to the acre in 1919.

Mr. Schuster was married in 1898 to Miss Amelia Luetkemeier, who was born in St. Charles County, Mo., a daughter of Rudolph Luetkemeier. The children born to this union are: Mrs. Verna Harrison, Levasy, Mo.; Bertha, Edna, Elvira, and Raymond, at home with their parents.

Mr. Schuster is a Republican, and is a member of the Evangelical church of Levasy.

**Willis H. Young**, deceased, was born in Jackson County, June 19, 1854, and was a descendant of early settlers in this county. His parents were Charles H. and Rebecca J. (Smith) Young, natives of Kentucky. Charles H. Young came to Missouri at a very early day and bought land near Blue Springs, becoming a very extensive land owner. Charles H. and Rebecca Smith Young were the parents of eight children, of whom Willis H., whose name introduces this sketch was the first in order of birth.

Willis H. Young was reared on his father's farm in the vicinity of Blue Springs and attended the district school. He began life for himself on rented land when he was 19 years of age, renting land from his father. A year later, he bought a farm containing 100 acres, to which he added 60 acres more in a short time. He was succeeding in his farming operation and raising livestock, when in 1883, on account of failing health, he removed to Colorado with his family, which consisted of his wife and two children. Here he engaged in farming and stock raising and later bought a farm. He died in Colorado, May 21, 1898. He was a Democrat and took an active interest in political affairs during his career. He was a member of the Baptist church.

Jan. 23, 1873, Willis H. Young was united in marriage to Miss Missouri Wells, a native of Jackson County, born near Lees Summit, Jan. 11, 1855. She is a daughter of Isaac B. and Sarah A. (Shepherd) Wells, natives of West Virginia. Isaac Wells came to Jackson County with his parents at an early day, when he was a mere child. He was born in West Virginia, Jan. 30, 1826, and died in Jackson County, Jan. 29, 1912. His



wife was born in the same state in 1820 and died in 1864. They were devout members of the Baptist church.

To Willis H. and Missouri A. (Wells) Young were born the following children: Lottie L., deceased; Myrtle, deceased; Ella, residing at home with her mother; Mrs. Ollie N. Viergutz died, leaving three children, who now live with Mrs. Young; Charles I., deceased; Mrs. Naomi Hill, resides on her mother's farm and has three children; Edith P., married C. Boggs and lives at Lees Summit; Mrs. Zora I. Hamblen; William H., deceased; and Susan, deceased.

After the death of her husband in Colorado, Mrs. Young remained in that state until 1901, spending 28 years in all in Colorado. She then returned to Jackson County and in 1905 purchased her present place in Prairie township. She owns 280 acres in all, 160 in Colorado and 120 in Prairie township, which is well improved and valuable land. The place is operated by her son-in-law, Arthur Hill. This farm is well stocked with high grade cattle and hogs and is one of the well managed and profitably conducted farms of Jackson County. In 1907, Mrs. Young built a large modern residence on the place and since that time has resided there.

Mrs. Young remembers many of the incidents of early day life in Jackson County. Although a child when the Civil War broke out, she has a vivid recollection of many incidents of those trying times.

Thomas B. Miller, well known and successful banker of Jackson County, who is the present cashier of the Greenwood Bank has been identified with the interests of Jackson County for over 50 years, since he was 15 years old. Mr. Miller was born in Washington, Pa., May 19, 1853, and is a son of Mathew B. and Agnes (Fergus) Miller, both natives of Pennsylvania. Matthew B. Miller was born in Pennsylvania in 1823, and came to Jackson County, in 1868. He settled on a farm near Lees Summit and was successfully engaged in farming and stock raising. At the time of his death in 1886 he was the owner of 117 acres of land which is the property of Thomas B. Miller the subject of this sketch. Agnes (Fergus) Miller was born in Pennsylvania about 1835 and died in 1885.

Thomas B. Miller is the eldest of seven children born to his parents, five of whom are living. The others are as follow: David S., hardware merchant, Lees Summit; John, a farmer and stockman; Jennie, Greenwood, Mo.; and Agnes, married Arch Consolover, Prairie township.

Thomas B. Miller spent his boyhood days on his father's farm and was educated in the district school and attended business college in Kansas

City, Mo. In 1883 he engaged in the general mercantile business at Greenwood; at that time he was in partnership with H. J. Nicholeson. They also had stores at Axtel, Kan., and Virginia City, Neb. In 1903 when the bank of Greenwood was organized, Mr. Miller became one of the original stockholders and at the organization of the bank he was elected its president and W. H. Barren became cashier. Two years later Mr. Miller purchased Mr. Barron's stock and became cashier of the bank and has held that position since, about 15 years. The bank of Greenwood has had a substantial growth and development since its organization and its business has been conducted along the lines of sound financial policies. The following is a statement of the bank of Greenwood at the close of business Aug. 28, 1919. Resources: loans, \$64,689.36; overdrafts, \$139.98; bonds, \$1,851.33; real estate, \$1,400.00; furniture and fixtures, \$1,190.05; cash and sight exchange, \$45,354.62; total, \$114,625.34. Liabilities: capital stock, \$10,000.00; surplus, \$10,000.00; undivided profits, \$367.62; deposits, \$92,689.34; other liabilities, \$1,578.38; total, \$114,625.34.

March 3, 1911, Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Mrs. Maud (Crockett) Coon, a native of Canada. Mrs. Miller has one child by her former marriage, now Mrs. Stella Rankin of Greenwood. To Mr. and Mrs. Miller have been born two children, Dunkin and Faith.

Mr. Miller is a Republican, although first of all he is a business man. He has a wide acquaintance in Jackson and Cass counties and his counsel in business affairs is highly valued by those who know him.

**Joseph H. Powell**, a well known and successful farmer and stockman and the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres of land in Prairie township, has been identified with the interest of Jackson County for over half a century. He was born in Franklin County, Ohio, Dec. 25, 1849, and is the son of William and Rebecca (Gray) Powell.

William Powell was a native of Pennsylvania and when a boy removed to Ohio with his parents, Archibald and Elizabeth Powell, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. William Powell came to Jackson County, Mo., with his family in 1866, and here engaged in farming and stock raising, and became well to do. At the time of his death, about thirty-two years ago, he was the owner of over four hundred acres of land in Jackson County. His wife, Rebecca (Gray) Powell, was a native of Maryland and died in Jackson County. They were the parents of nine children as follow: Elizabeth J., deceased; Arron C., deceased; Theodosia Ann, deceased; Archibald McCoy, deceased; Thomas B., deceased; Mary, the widow of Eli P. Holbert, now residing at Lees Summit, Mo.; Joseph H.,



the subject of this sketch; Jacob L., Lees Summit, Mo.; and Clara Emma, married R. Hiatt, Prairie Home township.

Joseph H. Powell was reared on a farm and received his education in a district school. He bought his present place in Prairie township in 1876. It is located two miles east of Lees Summit on the rock road, and is well improved. Mr. Powell carries on general farming and stock raising and in addition to his interest in agriculture, he is interested in other activities. He assisted in the organization of the Citizens Bank of Lees Summit, which began business in 1907, and he has been a stockholder and a member of the board of directors of that institution since its organization.

October 2, 1887, Mr. Powell was united in marriage with Miss Anna B. Powell, a native of Jackson County, born near Independence. While her maiden name was Powell she and Mr. Powell were not related. She is a daughter of John D. and Parthena (Meddow) Powell, the former a native of Jackson and the latter of Cass County, Mo. To Joseph H. Powell and wife has been born one child, Jennie, who married W. M. Mayes, Chanute, Kan. She is a graduate of Lexington College at Lexington, Mo.

Mr. Powell is a member of the Baptist church and in politics is a Democrat. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and one of Jackson County's well known and substantial citizens.

**J. Roy Harris**, assistant cashier of the Bank of Greenwood, is a descendant of one of the pioneer families of Jackson County. Mr. Harris is a native son of this county, having been born on a farm in Van Buren township March 9, 1890. He is a son of James T. and Roxanna C. (Rice) Harris, and one of three children born to them and is the only one living.

James T. Harris was born in Jackson County, Jan. 4, 1863, and is a son of Samuel B. Harris, a sketch of whom appears in this volume. Roxanna C. Rice Harris is also a native of Jackson County and was born Feb. 7, 1867. She is a daughter of William B. and Experience (Hewitt) Rice, the former a native of North Carolina and the latter of Illinois, and are both now deceased. The Rice family were early settlers in Jackson County, coming here before the Civil War.

J. Roy Harris was reared on the home farm in Prairie township and received his education in the public schools, graduating from the Greenwood High School in the class of 1905. He was engaged in farming and stock raising until 1919 when he became assistant cashier of the Bank of Greenwood and is now serving in that capacity. He is a capable young man and well qualified for the responsible position which he holds.



March 19, 1913, J. Roy Harris was united in marriage with Miss Sonotria E. Kite, a native of Kansas and a daughter of Frank L. and Margaret S. (Pedicord) Kite, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Ohio. The Kite family now live in Cass County, Mo.

Mr. Harris is a Democrat and he and Mrs. Harris are members of the Christian church and are well known and have many friends in Jackson County.

Samuel B. Harris, now living retired at Greenwood, Mo., after an active and successful career, is one of the few surviving early pioneers of Jackson County. He was born in Patrick County, Va., May 12, 1830, a son of William and Rhoda (Burnett) Harris, natives of Virginia. They came to Jackson County, Mo., in 1830, when Samuel B. was an infant, and located on a farm in Sniabar township and there spent the remainder of their lives. William Harris was born in 1795 and died in 1847 and his wife was born in 1800 and died in 1878. They were the parents of 15 children, of whom Samuel B. was the seventh in order of birth and the only survivor.

Samuel B. Harris grew to manhood on the old Harris homestead which was entered from the government in Sniabar township and about the time he reached his majority, he went to California, during the gold excitement and remained on the Pacific coast for seven years. He then returned to Jackson County and settled near Blue Springs, where he was engaged in farming until 1867. He then went to Bates County, Mo. and after remaining there 13 years returned to Jackson County and engaged in farming near Raytown. Later he removed to Blue Springs and about a year afterwards bought a farm of 200 acres in Prairie township, which he still owns. He has been engaged extensively in stock raising and has met with success in feeding cattle for the market. In 1911, he retired from his farm and moved to Greenwood where he is spending the sunset of his life in well merited rest.

Samuel B. Harris has been twice married. He was first married in August, 1860, to Parlee Webb, a native of Jackson County, Mo. and a daughter of John and Elizabeth Webb. Mrs. Harris died in Bates County, leaving seven children, as follow: Lucy married M. Hizer and is now a widow residing in Kansas City; James T., Prairie township; Emma, married James Andrew, Colorado; Oscar, Prairie township; John, Greenwood, Mo.; Charles, Prairie township; and Albert, Prairie township. Mr. Harris was married the second time in 1879 to Cornelia A. McClintock, a native of Illinois, born in Hancock County. To this union have been born four

children: Prudence, married John H. Powell, Prairie township; Alvin, now occupies the home farm in Prairie township; Carrie, deceased; and Cleveland, resides at home with his parents.

Mr. Harris has been a lifelong Democrat and is a member of the Christian church.

**Milton A. Hullinger**, of Greenwood, Mo., has been a resident of Jackson County since 1884 and during that time he has been actively identified with the agriculture interest of this section. He was born in Logan County, Ohio, April 3, 1863, and is a son of William and Ann (Taylor) Hullinger and was the only child born to them. They were both natives of Ohio, the former was born in Clark County in 1839 and died in Logan County, Ohio, in 1914 and the latter born in Logan County, Ohio, in 1843 and now resides in that county.

William Hullinger served in the Union army during the Civil War for two years. He enlisted in Logan County in Company C, 23rd United States Cavalry and participated in a number of important battles and campaigns. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea. After the war he returned to Ohio and spent the remainder of his active career engaged in farming.

Milton A. Hullinger was reared on the home farm in Ohio, and educated in the public schools in that State, and in early life learned the stone cutter's trade. He worked at that vocation for a few years in Ohio, and in 1884 came to Jackson County and worked at this trade until 1895. He then engaged in farming, near Greenwood, first renting a farm, which he purchased, and now owns a good farm of 200 acres of productive land which is well improved. Mr. Hullinger has been a stockholder in the Bank of Greenwood since its organization, and has served as vice-president and is now secretary of the board of directors.

Dec. 26, 1898, Milton A. Hullinger was united in marriage with Fannie E. Wilson, a native of Jackson County. She is a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Farmer) Wilson, both members of some of the first pioneer families of Missouri, and very early settlers in Jackson County. James Wilson was born in Cooper County in 1819, and settled in Jackson County with his parents in 1823. Mr. and Mrs. Hullinger have no children.

Mr. Hullinger is a Republican, and a member of the Baptist church. He holds membership in the Knights of Pythias Lodge, and he is recognized and a representative citizen, worthy of the esteem and confidence of his fellowman.



**William Totten**, now deceased, was an early settler in Jackson County, and a man who saw much of the pioneer life in the West. He was a native of Ohio, born in Columbiana County, Feb. 14, 1826, and died in Jackson County, Missouri, in 1900. He went West, to Iowa from his native State, at a very early day. In 1869 he came from Iowa to Jackson County, driving in a covered wagon, or what was known in those days as a "Prairie schooner." After coming to this county he engaged in farming on rented land near Greenwood. Later he bought property, became actively identified with the interests of the community, and was engaged in the creamery business at Greenwood for a number of years. He was a progressive citizen, and took an active part of the bettering and the upbuilding of the community. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, and was a Republican. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Prudence Bailey, was a native of Jefferson County, Ohio. She died in 1901.

To William Totten and wife were born four children, as follow: Elizabeth S., who resides at Greenwood, and is assistant postmistress; Margaret A., was appointed postmistress of Greenwood, Oct. 1, 1909, and has served in that capacity with general satisfaction to the many patrons of that office, as well as the government officials, to the present time. She is ably assisted in the discharge of the duties of the office by her sister, Elizabeth S., and the two sisters reside together in their well located and comfortable home in Greenwood. Freelove Maria Totten, the third child born to William Totten and wife, married Henry Ruff, and is now a widow and resides at Kingsville, Mo. Johnson H., the youngest of the family, died at the age of one year.

The Totten sisters are members of the Presbyterian church at Greenwood, and are representatives of the best citizenship of the community.

**James H. Bowin**, a successful farmer and stockman, of Prairie township, was born in Jessamine County, Kentucky, June 7, 1862. He is the son of George A. and Sallie A. (Grant) Bowin, both natives of Tennessee. They were the parents of 12 children, seven of whom are living, as follow: Mollie, married George Riddle, Kansas City, Mo.; Lizzie, married D. C. Allbritten, Kansas City, Mo.; Ella, married E. E. King, Centertown, Ark.; Samuel B., Lees Summit, Mo.; Lulu, resides at St. Paul, Minn.; Nannie, married W. B. Schultz, Kansas City, Mo.; James H., the subject of this sketch.

George A. Bowin, came to Jackson County and located near Greenwood, Sept. 13, 1880. He was engaged in farming for a number of years in Cass County, prior to settling in Greenwood.



James H. Bowin spent his boyhood days on the farm in Kentucky, and was educated in the district schools of that State and the public schools of Lexington, Ky. He began farming on his own account on rented land in 1886, and was thus engaged for 15 years, when he purchased his present place of 80 acres in Prairie township. His farm is well improved and he has recently built a modern residence, which is equipped with electric lights, hot and cold water, and all other modern conveniences.

Mr. Bowin was married Feb. 26, 1890, to Miss Cora J. Sample, a native of Jackson County, and a daughter of David and Mary (Boyer) Sample, a sketch of whom appears in this volume. To Mr. and Mrs. Bowin have been born three children, as follow: David E., who resides at home with his parents; Mary E., married W. R. Norris, and resides in Prairie township; and George B., at home.

Mr. Bowin is a Democrat, and a member of the Christian church. He is well known in Jackson County, and the Bowin family is prominent in the community.

**Judge William G. Chiles.**—The death of William G. Chiles, of Fort Osage township, in December, 1915, removed from this earthly realm a citizen of worth and integrity of purpose who capably filled the office of county judge, and who had, in the course of a long and useful life, been a material factor in the development of the great west and the upbuilding of Jackson County. Born in Jackson County, he lived to see his native heath develop from a wilderness to a thriving and prosperous and populous community. A plainsman and freighter to far western points in the pioneer days of the initial development of the great west, Mr. Chiles lived to see the great American desert, as it was called 50 years ago, filled with towns and cities and thriving farms. He, who traveled in his younger days over the rough trails which led to far off places in the west and southwest, and which were infested with the savage Indians, lived to see the railway girdle the country over which he had charge of overland freight trains drawn by oxen and horses in the old days.

William G. Chiles was born in Jackson County, in the Six Mile country of Osage township, June 22, 1836. He was the fourth son of Joel F. and Azubah (Skinner) Chiles, a sketch of whom appears in this volume. When 14 years of age, he entered the employ of Frank Chiles, a cousin, who conducted a store at Sibley. He remained with him until the latter's death, in 1852. William G. then joined his brother, C. C. Chiles, who was managing their father's interest in the store of Lightner and Chiles, and he was afterward with the firm of Chiles and Garrison until 1853. He





WILLIAM G. CHILES.



then entered the Masonic College at Lexington, Mo. Upon his father's death, in 1855, he went home and assisted in the management of the estate until the spring of 1861. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted in the Missouri State Militia, and was enrolled until September, 1861, when he left Missouri, and went to Texas, with C. C. Chiles, his brother, and Elijah Chiles, a cousin, and others who had gathered their movable possessions and had started for Grayson County, Texas. He remained with the train until it reached the Creek Nation, and he then started in advance of the expedition, with David Miller, to secure a location for his brother and family. Upon his arrival at Sherman, Texas, he was assisted in securing the location by Mr. Hendricks, a lawyer, who referred him to John Bacon, who lived on the Choctaw, eight miles east of Sherman. He got a farm of 200 acres, two miles east of Warren. Soon afterwards they sold the greater part of their outfit of wagons and mules and horses to a buyer for the Confederate government, and they then bought 320 acres of improved land four miles from Sherman, paying \$3,000 in Confederate money. After seeing his brother settled in his new home, William G. Chiles hastened to his Missouri home, arriving there late in November. He found that he would not be allowed to remain there, so he started again for Texas. He had his wagon equipped for the journey and his supplies loaded when some Kansas Jayhawkers came to the farm and took everything movable. He then secured another outfit and moved it to a church in Greeton valley, Lafayette County, and he made another start in January. Arriving safely in Texas, he went to Fort Smith with the intention of joining the Confederate forces. Arriving there he took charge of the ordnance department of Col. James Clarkson's forces, and joined Captain Minehart's company. July 3, 1862, he was captured by a scout belonging to General Blount's command, on Cabin Creek, in the Cherokee Nation. July 17th, with 115 prisoners of war, including Colonel Clarkson, he was sent in wagons to Fort Leavenworth. Eight days later the party arrived in Leavenworth, where the prisoners were paraded, inspected and placed in a prison camp. Through the intercession of his friends he was released on parole August 4th, and returned to Jackson County. He was required to report to the commandant at Fort Leavenworth on the first day of each week. December 1st, he was ordered to Platte County, and Sept. 1, 1863, he was ordered to report to General Schofield, in Kansas City. The General ordered him to take the oath of allegiance or join the militia, or he would be banished from the country. He chose banishment, was placed under \$3,000 bond, and agreed to go to Canada. He did so, and

remained in Toronto and Oakville, Canada, until the following December, when he requested the district provost marshal of this district to allow him to spend the winter in Clark County, Ky. He received his pass on Christmas Day, went to Kentucky, and remained there until the following March. He then obtained permission to go to Idaho, and there remain until the close of the war. From Canada he went to Platte County, where with P. P. Skinner and T. G. Calmes, he obtained an outfit for crossing the plains. He reached Boise City in August, and engaged in freighting from the Boise Valley to Owyhee, Minnesota, and Umatilla Landing, on the Columbia River, also to Idaho City. On his first trip to Umatilla he became snowbound and of necessity took steamer at the landing to Portland, Ore., thence by steamer to San Francisco, by way of Vancouver, and reached the Golden Gate the day after the assassination of President Lincoln. He then went by steamer to Sacramento, and by stage to Dawesville, where his brother, I. C. Chiles, lived on his ranch. He also visited an uncle, J. B. Chiles, who lived in the Chiles Valley, and had resided in California prior to the discovery of gold. After his visit he returned to Umatilla, and with his cousin, he took a load of freight on the first day of May to Central City, Idaho, receiving 14 cents per pound for freighting. Late that fall he crossed the mountains to Virginia City, Mont., and joined Henry and Cyrus Calmes, who had ox teams loaded with freight from Salt Lake City. He took cattle and mules to Crow Creek, and went into winter camp there, prospecting and hunting during the winter on Indian Creek. In September, 1866, Mr. Chiles sold his interest in the mines and ranch on Indian Creek, and returned to Montana. From Helena, Mont., he went to Fort Benton, then the head of navigation on the Missouri River. He paid \$40 for his passage down the river to St. Joseph on a flat boat, operated by Parkison and Price. This boat was propelled by oars, and on the first day the rowers gave out. A two-hour relief was then arranged, and by rowing day and night they reached Sioux City on the last of October. Mr. Chiles there boarded a steamer for St. Joseph, arriving home by rail, Nov. 2, 1866. In June, 1867, he made a trip to Grayson County, Texas, on horseback. After visiting Hunt and Fanning counties, Texas, he returned to Grayson County and took charge of the farm which he operated until 1868. In 1869 he rented his farm and returned to Missouri. In July he again went to Texas, traveling by mule team, and sold his Grayson County farm for \$10 in gold per acre. Purchasing cattle to be driven to Baxter Springs, Kan., he placed them in charge of John Belcher, and late in September, he started on horseback to overtake



the cattle. He caught up with the outfit a few miles the other side of Baxter Springs. A severe snow storm had occurred and the cattle were widely scattered. Mr. Chiles assisted in rounding them up, and in a few days sold his cattle to Kansas dealers, and started for Jackson County with a party. At Fort Scott, the others took train for Kansas City, leaving Mr. Chiles with the horses and wagons to drive through to Lees Summit. He arrived home in November, and in 1870, purchased of his brother, P. S. Chiles, an interest in the farm which served for his future home. Mr. Chiles developed a fine farm, which he improved with a handsome residence, and was rated as one of the substantial citizens of Jackson County. His farm consisted of 320 acres in Fort Osage township.

Sept. 28, 1870, Mr. Chiles was married to Mary E. Murfee, who was born in Jackson County, April 23, 1849, a daughter of Joseph and Emily (Rice) Murfee, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Missouri. Joseph Murfee died in Indiana during the Civil War, and Mrs. Emily Murfee died in Jackson County, in June, 1849. Seven children were born to this marriage, as follow: The first child died in infancy; Isaac C., Independence; Phineas S., died at the age of two years; Mary E., Kansas City; Grahame M., on the home place; William G., Independence; Caroline, the wife of Elmer Allen, Independence.

In 1884, Mr. Chiles was elected associate judge of the Jackson County Court, on the Democratic ticket, and was re-elected to the office, serving in all four years. He was a member of the court which had charge of the erection of the new county office building in Independence, and let the contract for the erection of the county court house in Kansas City. He made a capable and careful official, who faithfully performed the duties of his office with fidelity and dispatch, always having in mind the best interests of the people. He became a member of the Christian church in 1861, and served as deacon and trustee of the Buckner church, which he helped to organize, and to which he was always a liberal contributor.

**Grahame Murfee Chiles**, farmer and livestock dealer, owner of 306 acres of well improved land in Fort Osage township, was born on the place where he now resides, Sept. 30, 1874. He was educated in the public schools and Spalding Commercial College, and Stanbury Private Normal School. From early manhood he has been engaged in farming and dealing in livestock. For several years Mr. Chiles has been a successful buyer and shipper of livestock. For the past 18 years he has been engaged in the breeding of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle, and has made a success of this advanced phase of animal husbandry. Only recently he has



dispersed his herd of Shorthorns. His home farm consists of 240 acres, and the Chiles farm holdings total 306 acres in all.

Mr. Chiles was married Nov. 17, 1897, to Miss Mary Blanche McCune, who was born Nov. 29, 1876, in Fort Osage township, a daughter of Nathaniel and Margaret (Hall) McCune, natives of Ohio. Nathaniel McCune was born Jan. 30, 1842, in Coshocton County, Ohio, and was there reared as a farmer. He enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Ninety-fourth Ohio infantry, in 1864, and served until the close of the war. Shortly before his marriage, in August, 1868, he made a trip to Jackson County, and in the spring of 1869 he came to Jackson County and settled on a farm of 160 acres near Buckner. Mrs. McCune was born in Ohio in 1853. Nathaniel McCune died in May, 1898. His widow makes her home with her children, of whom she has three living: Mrs. Nora B. Roth, Buckner, Mo.; Mrs. Mary Blanche Chiles, of this review; and Mrs. Sarah Robertson, Buckner, Mo.

To Grahame M. and Mary Blanche Chiles have been born five children, four of whom are living: Glen Hall, died at the age of three years; Margaret Isabel, born Sept. 1, 1901, is a student in William Woods College, Fulton, Mo.; Emily Murfee, born Nov. 11, 1903, a student in Buckner High School; Dorothy Ruth, born July 24, 1905; Mary Beall, born Oct. 12, 1913. The mother of these children attended the public schools and graduated from the Baptist Female College at Lexington, Mo., in 1895.

Mr. and Mrs. Chiles have traveled extensively, and both have lived all of their lives in Jackson County, excepting when they were absent on trips over the country. They have traveled all over Western United States, the Northwest and also the Southern States and Canada. They are progressive and interesting people, whose social position in Jackson County is assured. Mr. Chiles is a Democrat. Mrs. Chiles is a member of the Presbyterian church.

**Chelton A. Browning**, a leading farmer and stockman of Prairie township and the owner of 325 acres of well improved land, has lived in Jackson County since 1874. He was born in Pendelton County, Ky. and is the son of William T. and Eliza (Miller) Browning, both natives of Kentucky. The father was born in Pendelton County in 1830 and died in Jackson County, Mo., in 1914. The mother was born in Clark County, Ky., in 1836 and died in Jackson County about 1909. The Browning family settled in Jackson in 1874, where the father was engaged in farming during the balance of his active career. William T. and Eliza (Miller) Browning was the parents of ten children as follows: Chelton A., the

subject of this sketch; Harrison O., resides in Johnson County; Talitha Thompson, a widow residing near Blue Springs; Elijah H., resides in Buchanan County; Early, deceased; Joseph, Raytown; Thornton, lives near Lees Summit; Charles, lives near Blue Springs; Cora, Raytown; and A. K., Independence.

Chelton A. Browning remained on the home farm with his parents until about 1880, and then operated rented land until 1882 when he bought 120 acres; he has added more land to his original purchase until he is now the owner of 320 acres of valuable land in Prairie township. His place is well improved and he carries on his farming on an extensive scale, using modern methods and up-to-date machinery. He also raises stock quite extensively.

Mr. Browning was married March 9, 1880, to Miss Abbie Hall, a native of Pendleton County, Ky., born in 1855. To this union were born the following children: Alvah, a merchant, Greenwood; Larkin E., a traveling salesman, Kansas City; Harry, resides at Greenwood; Lacy, Holiday, Kan.; Arthur, resides on the home farm in Prairie township; and Vernon resides on the home farm. The mother of these children died Nov. 18, 1914, and on Oct. 15, 1917, Mr. Browning was married to Jessie Roberts, a native of Covington, Ky.

Mr. Browning is a Democrat and a member of the Christian church.

**Ivin Long**, a successful merchant of Greenwood, is a native of Missouri. He was born in Cass County, Feb. 15, 1873, and is the son of John and Martha Susan (Cox) Long. They were the parents of seven children, of whom Ivin, the subject of this sketch, is the second in order of birth, and four of whom are now living.

John Long was born in Kentucky, and in early life removed to Illinois. About 48 years ago he came to Missouri, and located in Cass County, where for many years he was successfully engaged in farming and stock raising. About 1887 he began buying and selling livestock, and also conducted a meat market in Greenwood, where he now resides. His wife was a native of Illinois, born Dec. 1, 1852, and died Feb. 14, 1914.

Ivin Long received his education in the public schools of Greenwood, and began his business career when he was 18 years old. He engaged in the meat business in Greenwood, and four years later bought a stock of groceries, and shortly afterwards engaged in the general mercantile business, which he has since conducted. His business has expanded from year to year until he has built up a large trade, and is meeting with success.

Mr. Long was married in 1895 to Miss Stella Wilkins, a daughter of



R. J. and Mary (Vandergraff) Wilkins, early settlers in Jackson County. Mrs. Long was born in this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Long have been born two sons, Robert J. and Claude W., who are successfully engaged in the hardware business at Greenwood.

Mr. Long is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a Democrat, and a member of the Presbyterian church. He is a successful and a wide awake business man, and a public spirited and a progressive citizen.

**John H. Haynes**, of Prairie township, has for many years been successfully engaged in farming and stock raising, and is the owner of a well improved farm of 89 acres. He was born in Ash County, North Carolina, March 4, 1854, and is the son of Joseph and Lamyra (Johnson) Haynes, both natives of North Carolina. They were the parents of the following children: William J., St. Louis, Mo.; Stephen G., deceased; John H., the subject of this sketch; Martha L., married Henry T. Langenberg, and is now a widow, residing in St. Louis, Mo.; Mary M., married J. W. Noel, and is now a widow, residing at Lees Summit, and Fannie E., married James L. Kreeger, Boonville, Mo.

Joseph Haynes was born in Stokes County, N. C., October 11, 1816, and on May 12, 1850, married Lamyra Johnson, who was born in Wilkes County, N. C., Aug. 15, 1819. She died March 18, 1897. She was a daughter of William and Letitia Johnson, both natives of North Carolina. Joseph Haynes was a son of William G. and Martha (Hill) Haynes, natives of North Carolina. Martha Hill was a descendant of a distinguished colonial family, whose members were prominent in Georgia and North Carolina. She was a daughter of Major Robert Hill, who served in the Revolutionary War with the rank of major in Washington's army.

Joseph Haynes came to Missouri and settled in Polk County, in 1866, and in the fall of 1872 came to Jackson County, and settled on the farm where John H. now resides. However, he was not a practical farmer, as he had been engaged in the mercantile business nearly all his life. His sons conducted the farm, and here he spent the remainder of his life.

John H. Haynes received his education in his native State, attending the public schools, and later attending at Morrisville, Mo. He has always followed farming and stock raising, and since coming to Jackson County has made his home on his present place, which was the family homestead. He has improved the place and has made a success of his farming. For ten years he was engaged in breeding Shorthorn cattle.



Mr. Haynes was married in 1905, to Elizabeth B. George, a native of Kentucky. She died Oct. 4, 1915, at the age of 48 years. To Mr. and Mrs. Haynes were born two children: Martha T. and John H.

Mr. Haynes is a Democrat and a member of the Methodist church.

**John E. Lightfoot**, a Civil War veteran, and for many years a resident of Jackson County, now deceased, was a native of Kentucky. He was born in Pendleton County, Aug. 7, 1841, and died in Jackson County, March 4, 1919. He was a son of Frank and Louisa (Dunken) Lightfoot, both natives of Tennessee. They moved to Kentucky at an early day and there reared a family of five children, of whom John E. was the third in order of birth.

John E. Lightfoot came to Missouri from Kentucky in 1882, and first settled in Johnson County, where he was engaged in farming and stock raising 14 years. He then moved to Jackson County and followed farming until the time of his death. During the Civil War he served for three years in the Confederate cavalry, under General Morgan, and saw much active service, and received one slight wound. At the close of the war he was discharged at Mt. Sterling, Ky. He was a Democrat and a member of the Masonic lodge.

Dec. 2, 1869, John E. Lightfoot was united in marriage with Miss Louisa Colvin, a native of Harrison County, Ky., born Aug. 9, 1847, who now resides with her son, Charles C., in Van Buren township, Jackson County. To John E. Lightfoot and wife were born the following children: the eldest, a daughter, and died in infancy; Frank, lives near Lone Jack; James, Pleasant Hill; Susan, married William Cogswell, and resides in Jackson County; May, married Oliver Thompson, lives near Lone Jack; Ruth, married William Ingrum, and is now deceased, and Charles D.

Charles D. Lightfoot was born in Johnson County, Mo., Oct. 10, 1885, and he received his education in the public school, and in early life engaged in farming and has met with a very satisfactory degree of success. In 1910, he bought a farm in Van Buren township, which he later sold and bought his present place in the same township. His farm consists of 160 acres and is well improved. He carried on general farming and also raises livestock quite extensively.

Jan. 4, 1910, Charles D. Lightfoot was united in marriage with Miss Bettie Perdue, a native of Jackson County. She is a daughter of Daniel and Amanda (Tyler) Perdue, the former a native of Texas, and the latter of Jackson County. The father spent his entire life in Jackson County,

and the mother now lives with her youngest son. To Mr. and Mrs. Lightfoot have been born two children, Charles Raymond and Howard Francis.

Mr. Lightfoot is a member of the Christian church, and one of the substantial citizens of Jackson County of the younger generation.

**Thomas B. Hudspeth** has not only won a National and even a world-wide reputation as a breeder of fox and wolf hounds, but he has achieved a material success as a farmer, stockman and orchardist. He is, without doubt, one of the most versatile and able men of his class in Missouri, and is known far and wide throughout the land wherever there are human or dog lovers. Mr. Hudspeth's splendid country estate in Fort Scott townships bears ample testimony of the fact that he has not neglected the material side of industry while indulging himself in his hobby of hound breeder and sportsman. Mr. Hudspeth is owner of 1,200 acres of farm land in Jackson County, divided into three improved farms. His Hudspeth homestead tract, which he owns, consists of 160 acres and has been in the family since it was entered from the government by his ancestor. Sixteen years ago he planted an apple orchard of 50 acres, and this orchard is now giving great yields of apples. The 1919 crop has yielded a total of 2,599 barrels all of which is handled by the proprietor, placed in cold storage, and sold by him.

Mr. Hudspeth's entire large estate is under his personal management and supervision, only 90 acres of which are cultivated by tenants. He is one of the well known Missouri jack breeders, and raises numbers of mules each year, making a specialty of jacks for breeding purposes. He has, at the present writing, on his place, 50 head of horses and mules, 30 head of cattle, and 150 head of fine hogs.

Colonel Hudspeth's real specialty, however, is his fox hounds. For over 50 years he has been producing the finest fox and wolf hounds in America, and has sold the product of his breeding kennels in all parts of the United States, Canada and the Phillipine Islands. He shipped the first fox hounds to the Islands in 1914. They were the first real fox hounds ever shipped to the Phillipines, demonstrating that our Island possessions are becoming thoroughly American and when Uncle Sam's children across the seas can take up the good old sport of chasing the elusive fox. He has shipped hounds to points in Old Mexico. During his career he has produced many prize winning animals, and has been awarded many silver cups for his exhibits in past years. He was awarded a silver loving cup by the Kansas City Kennel Club for the largest exhibit of hounds (52) in 1915. In 1914 he was awarded the silver cup for the





*Thomas B Kindspeeth*





best fox hound shown at the Kansas City Kennel Club's exhibit. In both 1911 and 1912 he carried off the honors and won the cups. He was awarded the cup at the Springfield meet in 1906, held by the Springfield, Mo., Kennel Club, for the best hounds, although he only showed two animals at this meet. Mr. Hudspeth usually keeps from 100 to 300 hounds on his farm.

A little history of the breeding and production of the Hudspeth fox and wolf hounds will be apt at this point. During the Civil War, Thomas B. Hudspeth was yet a boy. His family, like others in Jackson County, were forced to leave the county on account of Order No. 11. He could not bear to leave his favorite hounds with no one to look after them. Accordingly he selected the best hounds which his uncle then had, and went with them to the North Grand River country. While living there he had many fine races after deer and fox. When the war was over he returned to the old home in Fort Osage township, with 16 fine hounds, all tried and true animals, who had never failed nor flunked on the chase.

There were but few houses left standing in the country at that time, and it looked like a wilderness. Wild game, such as wild dogs, wolves, wild cats, and foxes abounded. Domestic poultry and animals were not safe because of the depredations of these wild animals. Thomas Hudspeth's hounds proved to be of great value in ridding the neighborhood of the beasts which preyed upon domestic animals, inasmuch as he owned the only pack of trained animals in the country at the time. The news that he owned a splendid pack of hounds soon spread all over the country, and he was besieged with invitations to come to the homes of the settlers and help them hunt the wild animals. As he was fond of the sport he rarely refused an invitation, and was busily engaged for some time in running his hounds in chase of the foxes and wolves, which were numerous in the county.

Colonel Hudspeth has bred hounds since that time—a period of 54 years—and has given his direct attention to breeding since 1861. He has met with success, and is not only a practical hunter, but is a lover of the chase. It has been Mr. Hudspeth's experience that to successfully breed and raise hounds requires years of experience and close study, and also love of hunting, which gives that perfect confidence and accord between the hunter and his hounds.

The Hudspeth hounds are descended from animals brought to Jackson County by his grandfather, in 1828, his grandfather being a sportsman, who brought with him from Kentucky, his hounds, race horses, game

chickens and negroes, adjuncts which were necessary to the life of a Kentucky gentleman in the old days.

In 1858, a colony of English went to the State of Kansas. They took with them some fine English fox hounds. One of the young hounds belonging to the pack was lost where the party camped, and was brought to Mr. Hudspeth's uncle's house by some of the negroes. His uncle knew nothing of the short-eared hound, and dubbed the animal a cur, because he had coarse hair and short ears. After he was full grown they very soon found out he was the right kind. On two different occasions he outran about 30 other hounds. They got so far behind in nine hours that they failed to get in at the killing, except one female, named "Fancy." The big wolf hid in a log, and was shot by a man named John Hamilton. This wolf was the largest ever seen in the county. The name of "Ringwood" was given this English hound. "Ringwood" and "Fancy" were crossed. "Fancy" was a descendant of Col. James Chiles' "Old White Foot," which he had obtained from Wash. Maupin, and was brought to Missouri from Kentucky by Colonel Chiles in 1829. "Old White Foot" was sired by "Tennessee Leed," who had outran all of Mr. Maupin's hounds in the chase. Thus, the history of the Hudspeth's hounds extending over 100 years is summed up.

Thomas B. Hudspeth was born on the farm where he is now living, in 1849. He is a son of Thomas Jefferson Hudspeth, who was born in Kentucky, Feb. 17, 1805, and died Nov. 16, 1849. Thomas J. Hudspeth died of mountain fever, contracted while in California, he having been one of the forty-niners who crossed the plains and mountains when the first news of the great gold strike in California was given out to the world. He was a son of William Hudspeth, a native of North Carolina, who first emigrated to Kentucky and thence came to Jackson County, Mo., in 1826, and settled here in 1828, his first trip being for the purpose of looking over the country and securing a location. William Hudspeth was a son of Major Hudspeth, who was a soldier and officer in the American Army during the Revolution. Thomas Jefferson Hudspeth was married in Jackson County, Nov. 29, 1829, to Cynthia Hambright, a daughter of James Hambright, who was a son of Colonel Hambright, of North Carolina, who was also a soldier of the Revolution. James Hambright came to Jackson County in 1826, when the first official survey of the county was made, and the county organized. The children born to Thomas Jefferson and Cynthia Hudspeth were: Henrietta, deceased; Mrs. Missouri Kimsey, Buckner, Mo.; Mary P., deceased; William James, deceased; Mrs.



Sarah Adaline Truitt, Buckner, Mo.; Thomas B., of this review. The mother of the foregoing children was born April 20, 1813, and died Jan. 6, 1883.

Twice during the Civil War the Hudspeth home was burned and looted of its contents by Redlegs from Kansas. In 1863, when the marauders surrounded the home, and set fire to it, Mrs. Hudspeth tried to save some fine silk coverlets from their hands. She and the servants were carrying them out, but the Redlegs seized them and carried them away with other loot on their saddles. They filled their saddle bags with household treasures, which could never be replaced. They also drove away nearly all of the negroes but Sam, Herod and Dan, who remained loyal to the family, and were with them in the years of reconstruction after the war. The old family bible, which had been in the family since 1832, was miraculously saved, however, and was dug up out of the embers with the edges somewhat charred. The family library of books was in a box built into the wall of the house. Mrs. Hudspeth conceived the idea that the bible might be intact, and she told the negro Sam to try for it. She said, "Sam, scratch in there with a rake, maybe the old bible is not burned up." Sam replied, "Old Miss, that's all foolishness." Sam, however, raked the embers and discovered the bible, which Mr. Hudspeth treasures to this day.

When General Ewing issued Order No. 11, Mrs. Hudspeth was told to take her family and go to Kansas. However, she did not cross the border, but she and her children went to Richmond, Ray County, with Thomas B. Hudspeth's uncle, John Hambright. The war over they returned to the old home place, and Thomas B. Hudspeth set to work, with assistance, to rebuild the home and buildings. He has resided on the place ever since, and has placed every building and improvement now visible on the old farm.

Mr. Hudspeth was married Dec. 16, 1885, to Mattie Scott, who was born in Johnson County, near Rose Hill, in 1859. She is a daughter of Sydney and Sophronia (Baker) Scott. Sydney Scott was a son of William Scott, a soldier of the American Revolution, and a cousin of Gen. Winfield Scott. The following children have been born to this union: One child died in infancy, and Walter Scott Hudspeth.

Walter Scott Hudspeth was born Dec. 4, 1888. He enlisted in the United States Army on Nov. 6, 1916, convinced that his country would eventually take part in the great conflict which was then engulfing the entire world. He joined the coast artillery on the Pacific coast, and

crossed the Atlantic with the American Expeditionary Forces as a sergeant of heavy artillery. He took part in all of the great engagements on the western front in France, which resulted in the defeat of the Huns, and since his return to America he has been stationed at Camp Taylor, Ky., with the exception of a month's visit at home on a furlough. Mr. and Mrs. Hudspeth are both proud of the fact that their only son kept alive the traditions of the family in the great World War.

Mr. Hudspeth is a pronounced Democrat. He and Mrs. Hudspeth are members of the Christian church. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge, of Independence. He is a fine, hospitable gentleman of the old school, who has hosts of friends in Jackson County.

**James Alexander McKitterick**, one of the largest land owners of Jackson County, and one of the best known breeders in this section of the State, is a native of Iowa. He owns 985 acres of land in Prairie township, where he is engaged in general farming and breeding Hereford cattle and mammoth jacks. Mr. McKitterick has been engaged in breeding for the past 30 years, and is recognized as one of the most successful in the business. He has frequently sold stock from his farm by the carload, for range purposes in the West. He has also been quite extensively engaged in breeding hogs, and as far back as 1879 he shipped the first carload of hogs to Las Vegas, N. M., that was ever shipped to that territory.

Mr. McKitterick was born in Washington County, Iowa, April 27, 1858, a son of William and Elizabeth (Johnson) McKitterick, both natives of Ohio, and descendants of old American families. William McKitterick was born April 1, 1818. He remained in Ohio until 1854, when he removed to Iowa with his wife. He was engaged in farming there until December, 1865, when he came to Missouri, and settled in Parkville. In 1867, he came to Jackson County, and settled on the place in Prairie township which is now owned by J. A. McKitterick.

William McKitterick was a son of Alexander and Mary (McKnight) McKitterick, natives of Scotland and Pennsylvania, respectively. In 1814 Alexander McKitterick built the first water mill in Harrison County, Ohio. He lived and died amidst the pioneer surroundings of the early days in Ohio. He took up a claim of government land in Harrison County, Ohio, in 1812, when his nearest neighbor was seven miles distant.

William McKitterick was one of five children born to Alexander and Mary (McKnight) McKitterick, as follow: Catherine, lived to age of 80 years, and died unmarried; Mrs. Jane Tipton; William; James, deceased; and Mrs. Nancy Fisher, deceased. After the death of Alexander McKit-



terick his widow married William Ross, and they lived in Morgan County, Ohio, and three children were born to them, as follow: Mrs. Lottie Wilson, deceased; John, went West and located at Seattle, Wash., and owned what was known as the Ross addition; and Mrs. Mary Ann Easlick.

Elizabeth Johnson McKitterick, mother of James Alexander McKitterick, was born Aug. 18, 1830, and died in Jackson County March 28, 1895, and her husband, William McKitterick, died Feb. 9, 1890. They were the parents of five children, as follow: Mary Ann, born Nov. 9, 1859, deceased; Mrs. Catherine H. Hughes, born April 14, 1856, and died at Roseberg, Oregon, Jan. 13, 1877; James Alexander, the subject of this review; one child, born in June, 1862, died in infancy, and Merritt, born March 21, 1871, died when three days old.

James Alexander McKitterick was reared on his father's farm and attended the district schools and a college which was then located at Greenwood. In 1880, he entered Bryant and Stratton's Business College, at Chicago, where he completed the general course. He then went to western Kansas, where he had previously invested in the cattle business while in college, and for about five years he was engaged in the cattle business on the plains of western Kansas, and during that time he played the roll of the early day cowboy in real life. In 1884, he bought his first land in Jackson County, although he was interested in farming in this county 10 or 12 years previous to that. He planted his first crop in 1872. He is now the owner of one of the valuable farms of Jackson County, which is under a high state of cultivation, and constantly increasing in value.

July 29, 1890, Mr. McKitterick was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Estelle Simmons, a native of Jackson County. She is a daughter of John F. and Margarie (Sullivan) Simmons, natives of Illinois, who came to Jackson County in 1869, and are now both deceased. They were the parents of five children, of whom Mrs. McKitterick is the second in order of birth. To Mr. and Mrs. McKitterick have been born four children, as follow: Nellie E., married John W. Johnson, Lees Summit; William J., at home with his parents; James A., a student of veterinary surgery in the State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kan.; and Robert W., deceased.

Mr. McKitterick is a Republican, but inclined to be independent in local affairs. He has frequently been a delegate to his party conventions. He is well known over a broad scope of territory, and is one of Jackson County's successful men of affairs. Mr. McKitterick has ever been a close observer and a student of men and affairs, and he has a remarkable memory, especially in the matter of dates.



Jesse M. Cave, a prominent farmer and stockman, of Van Buren township, is a descendant of a pioneer family of Jackson County, who have been conspicuously identified with this section since 1838. Mr. Cave was born at Lone Jack, Feb. 22, 1857, a son of Bartlett B. and Lucinda (Rowland) Cave, who were the parents of four children, as follows: William H., lives in the State of Washington; Jesse M., the subject of this sketch; Lucinda, deceased, and Phenella, deceased. Lucinda Rowland Cave, the mother of these children, was accidentally killed at the Battle of Lone Jack, and during that engagement her home was burned to the ground.

Bartlett B. Cave married for his second wife, Amelia Satterfield, a native of Tennessee, and six children were born to that union, as follows: Dr. Frank Cave, a physician, Kansas City, Mo.; Susan, married Bert Palmer, a bank cashier at Kansas City, Mo.; Benjamin, deceased; Luttie, married Charles Jones, and is now deceased; Noah, also deceased; and Sallie, married John Grinter, Independence.

Bartlett B. Cave, father of Jesse M. Cave, was born in North Carolina, April 22, 1832, and died in Jackson County, in November, 1910. He came to Jackson County in 1838, and settled on a farm near Lone Jack. For a number of years he and Nora Hunt operated a carding mill in the vicinity of Lone Jack. His first wife, Lucinda Rowland, who was killed at the Battle of Lone Jack, was a native of Kentucky, and came to Jackson County with her parents when she was a young girl.

Jesse M. Cave spent his boyhood days amidst the pioneer surroundings of eastern Jackson County, and attended the district school, such as it was in those early days, but he obtained the greater part of his education in the hard school of life. He has always been a close observer and a student of men and events, and it may be fittingly said of him that he is a self-made man. In early life he learned the carpenter trade, and has worked at it considerably during the course of his career. He bought his first land in 1887, and in 1891 bought additional acreage, and is now the owner of 99 acres, upon which he has made extensive improvements. He carries on general farming and stock raising, and has met with success.

Jan. 8, 1881, Mr. Cave was married to Miss Sarah Satterfield, a native of Lafayette County, Mo., born June 29, 1853. She is a daughter of Green D. and Nancy (Joyce) Satterfield, the former a native of Tennessee, and the latter of Virginia. To Mr. and Mrs. Cave have been born six children, as follows: Nellie, married A. D. Dale, Kansas City, Mo.; Luella, resides in Kansas City, Mo.; William, deceased; Margaret, married

Frank Chaudoin, Salina, Kan.; Everett, deceased; and Mary, resides in Kansas City, Mo.

Mr. Cave is a Democrat and takes an active interest in local public affairs, and is public spirited and is progressive. He has served on the local school board and held the office of road overseer. He holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America.

**Jesse B. Yankee**, cashier of the Bank of Lone Jack, Lone Jack, Mo., is a native of Missouri, and a member of one of the well known pioneer families of this section of the State. Mr. Yankee was born in Lafayette County, April 13, 1863. He is a son of Wesley and Sarah (Franklin) Yankee, to whom were born seven children, as follow: Frank, lives in Van Buren township; Fannie, married Lopez Thompson, and resides in Cass County; Anna, married Boone Smith, Cooper County; Emogene, married A. F. Houston, Cass County; Jesse B., the subject of this sketch; William K., Independence; and Emma, married Jacob Hunt, Van Buren township. By a former marriage, to a Miss Underwood, Wesley Yankee was the father of five children, as follow: James A., deceased; Samuel, deceased; Amelia, married Sam McGlathery, and is now deceased; Joseph, deceased; and Eliza, married William H. Maxwell, and is now a widow, residing in Kansas City, Mo.

Wesley Yankee was born in Boyle County, Ky., and came to Jackson County with his parents in 1837. He was a son of Samuel and Ann (Graves) Yankee, natives of Kentucky. He was a farmer and spent his life in Jackson County, where he and his wife both died.

Jesse B. Yankee spent his boyhood days on his father's farm and attended the district schools. When he was 21 years of age he began life for himself, operating the home farm. Later he and his brother, William K., bought a farm in partnership. Mr. Yankee's next business venture was in the livery business at Lees Summit. He was successful in this and purchased his brother's interest in the farm, which they jointly owned, and now owns 115 acres of valuable land in Van Buren township. He disposed of his livery business in Lees Summit in 1891, and was engaged in farming until 1911, when he became cashier of the Bank of Lone Jack, and since that time has devoted himself to that position. The Bank of Lone Jack was organized in 1909, and Mr. Yankee was one of the organizers. This bank has had a constant growth and a steady increase in its volume of business since its organization, and is one of the



substantial financial institutions to be found in the smaller towns of the State.

Mr. Yankee was united in marriage Nov. 15, 1888, with Miss Minnie Trundle, a native of Kentucky. She is a daughter of Nicholas and Sarah (McClintock) Trundle, both natives of Bourbon County, Ky., and early settlers in Jackson County. The Trundle family came to Jackson County about 1868, and the parents are both now deceased.

Mr. Yankee is a Democrat and a member of the Christian church. His lodge affiliations are with the Masons and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a capable financier and well qualified for the responsible position which he holds.

**Daniel F. Triplett**, prosperous farmer of Fort Osage township, has lived all of his life on the Triplett farm in the Six Mile neighborhood. He was born on this farm, Dec. 14, 1858, and is a son of Eli and Margaret (Hart) Triplett, natives of West Virginia.

Eli Triplett came to Jackson County during the early forties, and was in this county when news came of the discovery of gold in California. He crossed the plains and mountains en route to the Pacific coast with an ox-teams, mined gold for some months, and returned home with his gold by way of the Isthmus of Panama, his dunnage being carried across the Isthmus by a small burro. He came up the Missouri and Mississippi rivers by steamboat, and then made a trip back to West Virginia. He settled in Jackson County in 1857, on the place now owned by his son, Daniel F. Triplett. Eli Triplett was a skilled carpenter and cabinet maker, in his day being considered the finest skilled workman in the neighborhood. He was kept busily employed by the settlers until the outbreak of the Civil War, when the family removed to Ray County, on account of Order No. 11. They returned to the home after the war closed, and Eli Triplett lived on his place until his death, in 1879, at the age of 61 years. His wife, Margaret, was born in 1834, and died in 1887. She was a daughter of James Hart, who was a scion of one of the old and distinguished colonial families of America. He was a son of James Hart, who married Nellie Chenowith. James Hart was a son of Daniel Hart, who married Margaret Bland. Daniel Hart was a son of John Hart, whom the official records show, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and a great patriot during the Revolutionary period. Daniel Hart was born at the ancestral home in New Jersey, in 1778, and moved to Randolph County, Va., in 1794. In 1819 he was elected to represent the county in the State Legislature. Eli Triplett was the father of three children: Daniel F., of this review; Ida





DANIEL F. TRIPLETT AND WIFE.



Triplett, living in Harrison County, Mo.; Mrs. Emma Pemberton, wife of Elwin Pemberton, living on a farm north of the Triplett place in Fort Osage township.

Daniel F. Triplett attended the Six Mile Academy, which held its sessions in a log school house. This was a splendid school in the early days, and had students who came for many miles around. He was reared on the home farm, and came into possession of it through inheritance, and purchase of the interests of the other heirs. The Triplett farm consists of 202 acres, upon which is a fine orchard.

Mr. Triplett was married in 1884 to Miss Ada Gallagher, who was born in Sumner County, Ill., April 16, 1863. She is a daughter of John and Katie Gallagher, the former of whom was born on the Atlantic ocean when his parents were crossing the sea from England to America. The Gallaghers came to Jackson County, Mo., from Illinois, in 1865. Four children have been born to this marriage: Vernon H., on the home farm; Mrs. Lelia Hostetter, Fort Osage township; Bernard W., east of Buckner; Hugh D., a student in the Missouri State University; Carrie, attending the Buckner High School; Roger Layton died of typhoid fever in August, 1911, at the age of 20 years. When the Liberty Bell was brought to Kansas City in 1917 for the purpose of arousing the patriotism of the people of the West, Miss Carrie Triplett had a place of honor, and took part in the exercises for the day, because of the fact that she was a direct lineal descendant of one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Mr. Triplett is an independent voter. He and his family are members of the Six Mile Baptist Church. He is affiliated with the Odd Fellows Lodge of Sibley, and the Yeomen, and is one of the most substantial citizens of Jackson County.

**Hiram B. Tucker**, a substantial and well-to-do farmer and stockman of Van Buren township, is a native of Jackson County, and a descendant of one of the pioneer families of this section of Missouri. Mr. Tucker was born in the township where he now resides, Jan. 17, 1858. He is a son of Thomas B. and Martha A. (Powell) Tucker, who were the parents of six children, of whom Hiram B. was the eldest. The others are as follows: Anna E., deceased; Thomas J., lives in Van Buren township; William T., resides in Oklahoma; Louisa R., married F. E. Calvert, Ft. Smith, Ark.; and Mrs. Ruby Brain, Van Buren township.

Thomas B. Tucker was born in Surry County, N. C., Dec. 10, 1824, and died in 1908. He came to Missouri with his parents in 1835, when he was 11 years of age. The Tucker family settled on a farm about one



and one-half miles from Hiram B. Tucker's present place. Martha A. Powell, mother of Hiram B. Tucker, was born in Jackson County, just east of Independence, May 16, 1835, and now resides in Jackson County, making her home with her son, Thomas J.

Hiram B. Tucker was reared on his father's farm in Jackson County, and received his education in the public schools and William Jewell College. He was reared to the ways of farm life and since early boyhood has been familiar with the details of farming. In 1900 he purchased his present farm, which consists of 120 acres of valuable land in Van Buren township. He has made improvements and has been generally successful in his farming operations.

Mr. Tucker was married in November, 1894, to Miss Francis E. Cox, a native of Jackson County, and a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Keirse) Cox, the former a native of North Carolina, and the latter of Jackson County. To Mr. and Mrs. Tucker have been born one child, Mattie Elizabeth, who resides at home with her parents.

Mr. Tucker is a Democrat and a member of the Baptist church. The Tucker family is well known and prominent in Jackson County.

Isaac W. Steele, a leading farmer of Prairie township, where he owns and operates a farm of 240 acres, is a member of one of Jackson County's pioneer families. He bears the unusual distinction of having been born on a farm in Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 19, 1854. His father's farm was located between what is now Ninth and Eighteenth streets, along Jackson avenue, and the house stood near the corner of Twelfth street and Jackson avenue.

Isaac W. Steele is a son of Hardin and Jane (Harr) Steele, the former a native of Bath County, Kentucky, born in 1800, and the latter of Pennsylvania. They were the parents of three children, as follow: Alvin, Harrisonville, Mo.; Isaac W., the subject of this sketch, and one died in infancy. The mother was first married to Mr. Eacott, and to that union six children were born, one of whom is now living, Mrs. Mollie Hutchinson, of Leeds, Missouri.

Hardin Steele came to Missouri about 1828, and in 1830 settled at Westport Landing, which is now within the limits of Kansas City. He was a farmer, and followed that vocation during his active career. He died in 1875.

Isaac W. Steele was reared on his father's farm, and educated in the public schools of Jackson County. He attended school in a house that stood where Elmwood cemetery is now located in Kansas City. He began his career as a farmer, operating his father's farm. In 1886 he bought his

present place in Prairie township, where he is the owner of 240 acres, which is mostly devoted to the production of small grain. Mr. Steele has made many improvements on his place, and is one of Jackson County's most successful farmers. He uses modern methods in his farming, and his place is well equipped with the most practical farm machinery.

Mr. Steele married Levonia Marrow, a native of Arkansas, and five children have been born to them, as follow: Archie, who lives on the home place in Prairie township; Nannie, married Dr. Carson, Willsall, Mont.; Clarence, Scammon, Kan.; Emily, married E. Jones, Lees Summit; and Edward, Kansas City, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Steele have ten grandchildren.

Mr. Steele is a Democrat, and a member of the Masonic lodge. He is a public spirited and a progressive citizen, and is widely and favorably known in Jackson County.

**William J. Willsey**, hardware salesman at Greenwood, Mo., although a native of Illinois, has been identified with Jackson County for 45 years. He was born in Pike County, Illinois, Oct. 1, 1858, and is the son of John J. and Elizabeth (McClintock) Willsey. He is the eldest of four children born to his parents, the others being: Lucenda, married Walter Merry, Argentine, Kan.; Mary, married William McCullick, Greenwood, Mo., and one child died in infancy.

John J. Willsey was born in the State of New York, July 19, 1832, and died in Jackson County, in August, 1919. He removed from his native State to Illinois in the early sixties, and in 1875 came to Missouri and settled in Prairie township, Jackson County. He followed farming and stock raising, and was very successful, owning at the time of his death property in Greenwood. He was a son of James Willsey, who was also a native of New York, and settled in Vernon County, Missouri, sometime after his son settled in this State. Elizabeth McClintock Willsey was born in Indiana, Dec. 14, 1833, and now lives with her youngest daughter, Mrs. William McCullick, Greenwood.

William J. Willsey came to Missouri with his parents in 1875, and remained on the home place until 1893. He then began farming on his own account. He became the owner of a farm in Jackson County, which he improved and operated until 1918, when he sold it and bought 160 acres in Linn County, Kansas.

Mr. Willsey was first married to Miss Lucinda Jones, a native of Tazewell County, Illinois, and one child was born to that union, Mrs. Addie F. Welch, Baxter Springs, Kan. Mr. Willsey was married the second time, Oct. 3, 1892, to Lydia Harger, a native of Jackson County. She is a daugh-



ter of Samuel J. and Margaret (Cramer) Harger, natives of Ohio. They lived in Jackson County for a short time, when they moved to Bates County. To Mr. and Mrs. Willsey has been born one son, John W., who resides at home with his parents.

Mr. Willsey is a Democrat, and a member of the Christian church. He holds membership in the Masonic lodge and the Modern Woodmen of America. He has seen many changes since he came to Jackson County as a boy, 45 years ago. He has a distinct recollection of many of the early day happenings in and about Kansas City, and recalls having ridden on the old mule street car. In fact, he has almost seen Kansas City and Jackson County grow up.

**Peter Stephens Alexander**, now living retired at Lees Summit, and the owner of 400 acres of land, is one of Jackson County's successful men of affairs, and has been identified with the agriculture interest of this county for over half a century. For many years he was a successful cattle and hog feeder, and also handled mules and sheep. He made a specialty of pure-bred Shropshires and always found a ready sale in Kansas and Missouri for his fine strain of sheep.

Peter S. Alexander is a native of Missouri, and is a descendant of the very early pioneer families of this State. He was born in Moniteau township, Cooper County, Feb. 21, 1839, and is the son of Alfred Anderson and Alpha Ann (Stephens) Alexander, who were the parents of 11 children, of whom Peter S. is the only survivor.

Alfred Anderson Alexander was born in Woodford County, Ky., in 1800, and came with his parents to Missouri in 1806. He was reared in Cole County, and later moved to Cooper County, where he followed farming throughout his life. He died in 1876. He was a son of James and Betsy (Ashcraft) Alexander, natives of Kentucky. Alpha Ann Stephens, mother of Peter S. Alexander, was born in Palestine township, Cooper County, in 1804, and died in about 1877.

Peter S. Alexander was reared on a farm in Cooper County, and educated in the schools of the times. In 1866 he came to Jackson County and purchased 400 acres of land and later added more acreage to his holdings. He paid \$22.50 per acre for his first purchase. However, when he came here he could have bought an 80 at \$8.00 per acre. Since coming to Jackson County he has followed farming and stock raising and has met with well merited success. During the Civil War Mr. Alexander served in the Confederate Army for a short time, but was captured by the Federals



and held as a prisoner at Sedalia with his father for three or four weeks, which practically ended his military career.

Nov. 27, 1862, Mr. Alexander was united in marriage with Miss Sallie Chinn, a native of Cooper County, born June 2, 1844. She is a daughter of Henry and Sallie (Jones) Chinn, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Cooper County, Mo. To Mr. and Mrs. Alexander have been born six children, as follows: Virginia, married Charles F. Porter, Salt Lake City, Utah; Thomas J., Bronson, Mo.; Alpha, married M. Trundle, Lees Summit; Laura L., married William Shawhan, Pleasant Hill; Frasier, Lone Jack, and Georgia, married John French, and now lives in Mexico City, Mexico.

Mr. Alexander is a Democrat and a member of the Christian church, and held membership in the Masonic lodge at Lone Jack, Mo.

Harvey H. Gentry, a well known farmer and dairyman of Van Buren township, who has also won a wide reputation as a successful stock breeder, was born in Stanford, Ky., July 3, 1859. He is the son of Valentine W. and Susan A. (Engleman) Gentry, who were the parents of seven children.

Valentine W. Gentry was born in Kentucky, and spent his life in his native State, where he died in 1884. He was a son of Richard and Nancy (Guthrie) Gentry, natives of Virginia. Richard Gentry was a Revolutionary soldier, and served under Washington. He was at the Battle of Yorktown and witnessed the surrender of the British troops by Lord Cornwallis. He was the father of 20 children.

In 1884, Harvey H. Gentry came to Jackson County and entered the employ of W. S. Woods, at Kansas City, Mo. He resided in Kansas City for 18 years. He then purchased 27 acres of land at Englewood, and five years later bought 140 acres northeast of Independence. He was engaged in farming and stock raising on this place until 1918, when he purchased his present place of 153 acres in Van Buren township, which was known as the George Shawhan place. This is one of the historic places in Jackson County, and for many years was the home of Shawhan distillery. There are five springs on the place, from eight to ten feet deep, which afford an excellent quality of water, which no doubt is the reason that this place was selected as a desirable site for a distillery. Mr. Gentry, in addition to his general farming and dairying business, is devoting a great deal of attention to breeding pure-bred livestock, which includes Holstein cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs. Possessing the traditional traits of a true

Kentuckian, Mr. Gentry is a great lover of fine horses, being partial to saddle horses.

Mr. Gentry was married in 1888 to Miss Nettie Bloom, who was born and reared at Mt. Vernon, Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Gentry have been born the following children: Harvey, Susanna Catherine and Andrew E., all of whom are residing at home with their parents. Two children died in infancy.

Mr. Gentry is a Democrat and is a member of the Christian church.

**Samuel J. Moore**, a successful and well known farmer and stockman, of Van Buren township, is a native of North Carolina. He was born in Sayre County, April 22, 1862. He is a son of John and Sallie (Howard) Moore, and is one of 11 children born to them, three of whom are now living. The father died in North Carolina, and in 1867, the mother came to Missouri from that State with her family and settled in Johnson County. Here she reared her family under adverse circumstances, and with small means. However, by a constant struggle, good management and a determination to win, she kept her family together during those trying times, and finally had the satisfaction of living to see all of her surviving children prosperous and doing well in the world of affairs. She died about 1900, at the age of 76. She was a devout member of the Methodist Church South.

Samuel J. Moore, from early boyhood, assisted his mother on the home place, and later worked in a tobacco factory at Lone Jack for six years. In 1888, he engaged in the mercantile business at Fulkerson, Johnson County, and was also postmaster at that place for 11 years. He then traded his mercantile business for the farm which he now owns, in Van Buren township. He has made many improvements on this place, and it is one of the valuable farms of the county. His farming operations are conducted according to modern methods, with modern machinery. In 1914, he moved to Warrensburg, and remained there while his daughter, Ruth, was a student in the State Normal School; in 1917, he returned to his farm, where he has since resided.

Mr. Moore was united in marriage on Jan. 22, 1884, in Adams County, Ia., with Miss Christina Peacock, a native of Illinois, and to this union five children have been born, Ruth, the only one living, is a graduate from the Warrensburg School of Music, where she specialized, and is now residing at home with her parents.

Mr. Moore is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Central Protective Association. He has been a member of this as-



sociation for 25 years, and has served as its secretary and treasurer. He is a Democrat and a member of the Methodist Church South. He is a progressive and well informed citizen, and has met with success in his undertaking.

**Frasier McVein Alexander**, son of Peter Stephens Alexander, is the owner of the historic old Noah Hunt farm in Van Buren township, near Lone Jack. Mr. Alexander is the owner of 244 acres of land and is extensively engaged in the dairy business. He was born Feb. 25, 1880, southwest of Lone Jack, in Van Buren township. He was educated in the Wentworth Military School, at Lexington, Mo., and upon leaving school he engaged in the stock business, and for the past 20 years has been in that business. He has bought and sold mules extensively.

Dec. 10, 1913, Frasier M. Alexander was married to Mary Bell Boggs, a native of Prairie township, Jackson County, born Feb. 10, 1884. She is a daughter of John F. and Mary (Carlew) Boggs, natives of Jackson County. John F. Boggs is a son of John O. and Bethany (Shepherd) Boggs, natives of Kentucky, who came to Missouri at a very early day and settled in Jackson County. Mrs. Alexander's mother died at Lone Jack, and her father now resides at Pleasant Hill. To Mr. and Mrs. Alexander have been born two children, Thelma and Jack.

**Zachariah W. Yankee**, the owner of a valuable farm of 240 acres, is one of the progressive farmers and stockmen of Van Buren township, and for the last four years has been a successful breeder of Hereford cattle and Hampshire hogs. Mr. Yankee is a native of Jackson County, and a descendant of one of the pioneer families of this section of the State. He was born in Van Buren township, Oct. 19, 1857, and is the son of David and Orlena (Beeler) Yankee, and is the third in order of birth of a family of ten children born to them.

David Yankee was a native of Kentucky, born in 1827. He was the son of Sam and Amelia Yankee, who were also natives of Kentucky, and among the very early settlers of this county. They came here with their family in 1830, and spent the remainder of their lives in Jackson County. David Yankee died in 1872, and his widow now resides with her daughters in Van Buren township, and is 88 years old. She was born in Tennessee, and was brought to Jackson County by her parents when she was two years old, in 1833.

Zachariah W. Yankee spent his boyhood days on the home farm, and attended the district school. He has followed farming and stock raising all his life, and in 1899 bought his present place. He has made improve-



ments, and has one of the valuable farms of Jackson County. Four years ago he began breeding pure-bred Hereford cattle and Hampshire hogs, and has met with success in this department of animal husbandry.

Dec. 12, 1889, Mr. Yankee was united in marriage with Miss Annie Ragsdale, a native of Jackson County, born April 12, 1866. She is a daughter of Dr. Edward Ragsdale. To Mr. and Mrs. Yankee has been born three children, as follows: Vernie E., Archie E., and Lula E., all of whom reside at home with their parents. Mr. Yankee is a Democrat, and takes a commendable interest in public affairs.

**James H. Douglas.**—The late James H. Douglas was one of the early pioneers in this county, and one of the original forty-niners. Pioneer, gold seeker, soldier in the Civil War, and lastly, a home builder in time of peace, which followed the Civil War, he builded well and wisely, and his name will always be an honored and respected one in the annals of this county.

James H. Douglas was born near Richmond, Ky., June 5, 1829, and died March 11, 1911, at his home in Jackson County. He was a son of Thomas Douglas, who came to Jackson County from Kentucky in 1835, and settled in Fort Osage township. He had a family of 14 children, of whom James H. was the seventh child in order of birth. J. H. Douglas made the trip to the gold fields of California in 1850, and remained for three years in the mining camps of the Pacific coast, returning in 1853. He served three years in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, under Generals Shelby and Marmaduke. He was captured near West Plains, Mo., after a battle which occurred in Howell County, Mo., but was later exchanged, in July, 1863, having been held a prisoner from January until July. He took part in the Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, under Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, in June, 1864, and was wounded in the right eye. He received an honorable discharge from the service on account of his disability, and returned home. In 1865 he began farming, and became the owner of 247 acres of land in Fort Osage township, which he improved.

Mr. Douglas was married Sept. 4, 1859, to Miss Henrietta Dickson, a daughter of Ebenezer Dickson, a pioneer of Jackson County. Mrs. Douglas died Sept. 13, 1879, leaving children as follow: Mary, wife of Charles Marsh, Missoula, Mont.; Thomas went to California in 1888, and for several years has not been heard from; Hattie, wife of H. Truitt, of Independence; Myra, died in 1914; Ebenezer was last heard from in British Columbia, in 1899; Myrtle, wife of C. M. Winfrey, Fort Osage township;



JAMES H. DOUGLAS.





James Oliver, born Feb. 28, 1877, resides with his brother on the old home place of the family, and is chief cook and housekeeper, and a good one.

The Douglas home is kept looking as neat as can be, and the two brothers, Walter and James Oliver, enjoy their comforts and live well satisfied with their bachelor existence. They are owners of the Douglas farm of 285 acres, land which was entered from the government by their grandfather over 80 years ago. They are progressive and enterprising citizens, and Walter Douglas is a director of the Farmers Bank of Buckner.

James H. Douglas was a member of the Church of Christ, and was a Free Mason. He was one of the best known men of Fort Osage township, and was well and highly respected for his many excellent qualities.

**John Blackwell**, who is prominently identified with the agricultural interest of Jackson County, and the owner of a well improved farm in Van Buren township, is a native of North Carolina. He was born in Yadkin County, April 9, 1876, and is the son of James F. and Nannie (Keirsey) Blackwell, and was the only child born to his parents. James F. Blackwell was born in North Carolina, March 31, 1846, and now resides at Odessa, Mo. Nannie Keirsey Blackwell was also a native of North Carolina, and came to Jackson County with her parents, who were early settlers here, and entered land from the government. Mrs. Blackwell died in 1901, at the age of 53 years, and Mr. Blackwell afterwards married Mrs. Mary Daniels Whitsitt.

John Blackwell was reared to manhood at Odessa, Mo., and received his education in the public schools there. He began life as a clerk in a drygoods and a furnishing goods store at Odessa, and was thus engaged for 12 years. He settled in Odessa with his parents, who came from North Carolina when he was about eight years old, and he has spent his life in Missouri since that time, with the exception of three years spent in Texas. For a time he operated rented land in Lafayette County, renting from his father. In 1915, he purchased his present place in Van Buren township, and has since made extensive improvements. He owns 120 acres of land, and in addition to his general farming and stock raising he has recently engaged in breeding Shorthorn cattle and Chester White hogs.

Mr. Blackwell was married June 21, 1916, to Miss Ada Hunt, of Lone Jack. She is the youngest daughter of Noah Hunt, one of the very early pioneers of eastern Jackson County.

Noah Hunt was born in North Carolina Feb. 20, 1831, and died in Jackson County in 1909. He was one of 13 children born to his parents,

and the sixth in order of birth. He came to Missouri from North Carolina with his parents, in 1842, when he was about 11 years old. The family first settled at Warrensburg, and about a year later the father purchased land in Jackson County, near Sni Mills, and moved there with his family.

Noah Hunt remained on his father's farm, and attended the subscription school, until 1849, when his father built a horse-power grist mill on Sni Creek. This was the origin of Sni Mills. Noah Hunt took charge of this mill. In 1856 corn burrs were installed in this tread mill, and in 1859 the horse-power was replaced by a steam power. In 1861 the mill was burned by soldiers. Noah Hunt also operated a wool carding machine near Lone Jack, which he continued to operate until about the close of the Civil War. In 1888 he installed a four-roller mill system in his mill, and at that time he was operating under the name of "Noah Hunt and Son, Roller Mill." In 1896 the Noah Hunt machinery was moved to Pleasant Hill, where his sons continued to operate.

Noah Hunt was twice married. Aug. 28, 1851, he was married to Miss Mary E. Cave, of near Lone Jack. Twelve children were born to this union, seven of whom are living. The wife and mother died March 7, 1879. Sept. 13, 1880, Noah Hunt was married to Mrs. Mary E. Travis, widow of Dr. J. R. Travis.

Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell have no children. Mr. Blackwell is a Democrat, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Odessa, Mo.

**Luther Rowland**, of Van Buren township, has won a wide reputation in this section of Missouri as a successful breeder of jacks and jennies, a business in which he has been engaged for a number of years. Mr. Rowland was born in Van Buren township, Jackson County, about two miles east of Lone Jack, May 7, 1866. He is a son of Buford M. and Nancy (Yankee) Rowland, who were the parents of 13 children, 11 of whom grew to maturity. Luther was the ninth in order of birth, and they were all born in Jackson County, excepting L. L., who was born in Carroll County, where the family lived when Order No. 11 was in effect, during the Civil War.

Buford Rowland was born in Bourbon County, Ky., and came to Missouri, locating near Lone Jack, at a very early day. He died here at the advanced age of 83 years, and his widow now lives at Lone Jack, and is in her 89th year.

Luther Rowland spent his boyhood days on the home farm near Lone Jack, and attended the district school. He has been engaged in farming



and stock raising for himself since he was 21 years old. He has always been interested in mules, and for the past 25 years has given special attention to breeding jacks and jennies. He has sold jacks and jennies over a broad scope of territory, including Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma, and has received some very fancy prices for his stock. He recently sold a five-year-old jack for \$950.

Mr. Rowland was married March 31, 1896, to Miss Della Graham, a native of Jackson County, born in Van Buren township. She is a daughter of Ambrose and Sarah (Stultz) Graham, both natives of Missouri. Mr. Graham was an extensive breeder of jacks and jennies, and it was he who gave Mr. Rowland his first start in that industry. Mr. and Mrs. Rowland have no children.

Mr. Rowland is a Democrat and a member of the Presbyterian church. He holds membership in the Modern Woodmen of America, and is one of the progressive citizens of Jackson County.

**Hugh McClure Shepherd**, who for many years was actively engaged in farming and stock raising in Van Buren township, and is the owner of 320 acres of land, has been a resident of Jackson County practically since the Civil War. He was born in Paint township, Madison County, Ohio, Aug. 1, 1836, and is a son of John B. and Keziah (McClure) Shepherd.

John Shepherd was a native of Virginia, born near Harper's Ferry, in October, 1800, and died in London, Ohio, Jan. 15, 1853. He was a farmer, and spent his entire life in Ohio, and at the time of his death was the owner of 350 acres of land. His grandfather was a paymaster in the British army. Keziah McClure, the mother of Hugh M. Shepherd, was born in Philadelphia, Pa., in October, 1805, and died in Ohio about 1886. She was a daughter of Hugh McClure, who was of Scotch descent. He was a government surveyor in Ohio.

Hugh M. Shepherd received his early education in an old log school house, typical of the times, in Madison County, Ohio. During the Civil War he served as captain of the State Militia in Ohio, and after the war he came to Missouri and settled in Jackson County, about six miles east of Lees Summit. He has owned two or three different farms in this county, owning at one time 500 acres of land. In 1883 he bought his present farm of 320 acres, upon which he has made extensive improvements, and since that time has made his home here, and has successfully carried on farming and stock raising.

Mr. Shepherd was married Oct. 23, 1865, to Miss Nancy (Fennimore) Beers, a native of Indiana, born in October, 1844, and died June 15,



1899. She was a daughter of James and Hanna E. (Littleton) Beers. James Beers was a native of Ohio, and was engaged in the mercantile business practically all his life. His wife was a native of Virginia. Mrs. Shepherd was a talented woman and highly educated. She was a graduate of the Woman's College at Xenia, Ohio. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and lived a consistent Christian life, and made the world better for having lived in it. To Hugh M. Shepherd and wife were born five children, as follows: Hallie, who died at five years of age; Stella, married Alonzo Warren, 1836 East Seventy-ninth street, Kansas City, Mo.; James F., employed in the Trust Company Bank, at Independence; Hugh, a graduate of the Harvard Law School, and now a practicing attorney at Detroit, Mich., and Albert, who died in 1915; his widow now resides at Waverly, Kan.

Mr. Shepherd is a Democrat. During his entire life he has been a great reader and is especially a constant student of history, having read most of the standard works on history several times. He not only reads history, but studies it.

**Nicholas Amos**, a substantial farmer and stockman, of Van Buren township, is one of the few pioneers of Jackson County who is still actively engaged in the very-day business affairs of life. Mr. Amos is a native of Kentucky. He was born in Bourbon County, Oct. 14, 1838, and is a son of Abraham and Julia (Matheny) Amos, who were the parents of three children, two of whom are now living, the subject of this sketch and Mrs. Sarah Kennedy, who also resides in Van Buren township.

Abraham Amos was born in Bourbon County, Ky., and came to Jackson County with his family, in 1855. And at that time purchased the farm where Nicholas now resides. The first house built in Van Buren township was erected upon this place. It was a log cabin. When the Amos family came to Missouri they came from Louisville, Ky., to St. Louis, by boat, and from there by boat up the Missouri River as far as Roachport. The name of the boat on which they made the trip from St. Louis up the Missouri was the "David Tatum." From Roachport they drove to Jackson County with teams. Abraham Amos was a slave holder and when the Civil War broke out and when Order No. 11 was issued, he was forced to leave Jackson County until after the war. Julia Matheny Amos, mother of Nicholas Amos, was born in Bourbon County, Ky., in 1810, and died in 1888. Abraham Amos also died in 1888, at the age of 78 years.

Nicholas Amos came to Jackson County with his parents in 1855. He was then about 17 years of age, and since that time he has made his home here, excepting for a period of 14 years, when he was engaged in the mercantile business at Pleasant Hill, and during the Civil War. When the war broke out he enlisted in Colonel Irvin's company, First regiment, Missouri infantry. He took part in a number of important engagements, including Cowskin, Wilson Creek, and the Battle of Lexington, and during his military career he was taken prisoner twice. After the war he returned to his farm, and has lived there ever since, excepting the time above mentioned when he was in Pleasant Hill. He is the owner of 210 acres of land, and has made a success of farming and stock raising.

Dec. 13, 1877, Mr. Amos was married to Miss Mary P. Davis, a native of Henry County, Mo. She is a daughter of John and Sarah (Kersey) Davis, and is the second in order of birth of four children born to them. She has a brother, Dury Davis, who now resides in Van Buren township. John Davis was born in Virginia, Sept. 5, 1815, and died in Jackson County, in September, 1866. Upon coming to Missouri he first settled in Henry County. When gold was discovered in California, in 1849, he crossed the plains to the Pacific coast, but shortly afterwards returned to Missouri. His wife was born March 25, 1827, and died Oct. 9, 1906.

To Nicholas Amos and wife have been born two children: Granville, who married Katie Keys, and one daughter has been born to them, Granville, who is now attending school at Pleasant Hill. Bessie, who married Harold Gerard, of Manhattan, Kan., and they have two daughters, Helen and June.

During the 65 years that Mr. Amos has lived in Missouri he has witnessed many events and much progress. He passed through the Kansas Border War. He saw the great rush of immigrants across the country, and recalls one instance where a party with over 100 wagons were camped near a spring on his place. He is reckoned among the old time settlers, and says that he recalls but one man that was here when he came, and he is now residing at Pleasant Hill. In the early days he got much recreation out of hunting; he has shot many prairie chickens and wild turkey and killed the first wild deer that he ever saw; his father killed the last deer that was killed on Big Creek, in Cass County.

There is an old apple tree standing on the Amos place that is of more than ordinary historic interest. It is said to be the largest apple tree in the United States, and is over 100 years old, and is known to have borne fruit since 1837.



**Oliver Thompson**, a progressive farmer, of Van Buren township, and the owner of a valuable farm of 80 acres, is a well known breeder of Jersey cattle and draft horses, and for a number of years has been engaged in the dairying business. He was born in Van Buren township, Jan. 13, 1879, and is the son of William and Elizabeth (Simmons) Thompson. They were the parents of 16 children, ten of whom are now living, as follows: Mrs. Virginia Bynum; Thomas H., Odessa, Mo.; William A., lives on the old home place in Van Buren township; Alice, married C. B. Kennedy, Van Buren township; Minnie F., married John Cummings, is now a widow, and resides in Oklahoma; Charles L., lives in Henry County; Oliver, the subject of this sketch; Oscar, a twin brother of Oliver, lives in Wyoming; Maud, married Cliff Tyson, Monroe County, Mo., and George D., Barton County, Mo.

William Thompson was born in Carroll County, Va., June 21, 1837, and died in Jackson County, Sept. 1, 1919. He came to Missouri at an early day and followed farming and stock raising all his life, and at the time of his death he owned 255 acres of land in Van Buren township. During his active career he raised a great many high-grade draft horses, and some of the largest horses that ever left Jackson County were raised by him. During the Civil War he served in the Confederate Army. He was at the Battle of Lone Jack with Gen. Joe Shelby's command, and during that engagement looked after the horses. He was a member of the Baptist church. Elizabeth Simmons Thompson, mother of Oliver Thompson, was born in Jackson County, July 5, 1841. She was a daughter of Thomas S. and Ann (Mackelhaney) Simmons, natives of Midway, Ky.

Oliver Thompson was reared on his father's farm in Van Buren township, and educated in the district schools. He operated rented land for a number of years, and in 1911 purchased his present place of 80 acres, where he has continued general farming and stock raising, and has met with success.

Mr. Thompson was married in May, 1906, to Miss May L. Lightfoot, who was born in Pendleton County, Ky., Oct. 26, 1880. She is a daughter of John and Mary Louisa (Colvin) Lightfoot. To Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have been born six children, as follows: Mary Elizabeth, John W., Paul L., Oliver, Jr., James E. and Georgia Francis.

Mr. Thompson is a Democrat and belongs to the Baptist church. He holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is one of Jackson County's representative citizens, and has met with well merited success.



**James H. Wilson**, now deceased, was for many years engaged in the distilling business at Lone Jack, Mo. He was an expert distiller, and in 1874 came from Kentucky to Jackson County and took charge of the Shawhan Distillery, at Lone Jack.

Mr. Wilson was a native of Kentucky, born at Shawhand, Bourbon County, April 28, 1838. He was married in 1873 to Miss Malissa Leonard, who was also a native of Kentucky, born near Paris, Bourbon County, April 13, 1854. She now resides at Lone Jack. To James H. Wilson and wife were born five children: Maud E., was born in Lone Jack, Mo., and for 13 years was employed as a clerk in a general store, and in 1907 she engaged in the general mercantile business at Lone Jack, where she has also been postmistress since 1905. She has built up a very satisfactory mercantile business in that vicinity, and by her efficiency and courteous manner, she has given general satisfaction, as well as good mail service to the patrons of the Lone Jack postoffice.

Of the other three children of the Wilson family, Wade H. resides at Lone Jack; Earl, resides in Chicago, and is in the employ of the Pullman Company as a barber. Bessie, is the wife of M. C. McKay, Kansas City, Mo., and Julia, married C. H. Brotherson, and lives at Hardin, Mont.

Miss Maud Wilson is a member of the Royal Neighbors. She has an extensive acquaintance, and many friends in Lone Jack and vicinity.

**Frank Neininger** is the owner of 120 acres of valuable land in Van Buren township, which he is now operating. Although Mr. Neininger has been engaged in agricultural pursuits but a short time, he has been identified with Jackson County, as a resident of Kansas City, for a number of years.

Frank Neininger is a native of Ohio. He was born at Bridgeport, March 20, 1867. His parents were Lawrence and Agnes (Blessing) Neininger, and Frank was one of seven children born to them, five of whom are now living. Lawrence and Agnes Blessing Neininger were both natives of Germany, and shortly after their marriage in their native land they came to America, and settled in what is now West Virginia. Later they moved to Ohio, where the father worked at the vocation of stationery engineer, and spent the remainder of his life in Ohio, where he and his wife died.

Frank Neininger received his education in the public schools in Ohio, and after leaving school served an apprenticeship at the glass blower's trade in the LaBelle Glass Factory. And for 25 years he worked as a journeyman glass blower, in various parts of the United States and Can-

ada. He worked at his trade in the East Bottoms of Kansas City in 1902, and later engaged in the hotel and liquor business in the East Bottoms, and successfully conducted that business until July, 1919, when he moved to his present place in Van Buren township.

July 3, 1889, Frank Neininger was united in marriage with Miss Etta Ball, a native of Lone Jack, Mo. She is a daughter of Joseph S. and Ellen (Hink) Ball. Joseph S. Ball was a member of the very early pioneer families of Jackson County. He was a native of Illinois, and was brought to Jackson County by his parents when he was about one year old, in 1844. They settled at Lone Jack. He was a son of William and Sarah (Jackson) Ball, who were the parents of 12 children, of whom Joseph S. was the third in order of birth. He was reared to manhood and educated in the vicinity of Lone Jack, and was engaged in farming during his lifetime. He died Sept. 10, 1917, at the age of 74 years. His wife was a native of Missouri, born in Vernon County, Aug. 1, 1858, and now resides at Lone Jack. Joseph S. and Ellen (Hink) Ball were the parents of one child, Etta, who is now the wife of Frank Neininger, the subject of this sketch. Mr. and Mrs. Neininger have no children.

Mr. Neininger is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and is a Democrat.

**Eli Mershon**, Civil War veteran, retired resident of Buckner, Mo., was born in Carroll County, Ind., Nov. 5, 1839. When this fine, old gentleman was 80 years old, and his children were gathered at his home in Buckner to celebrate the eightieth anniversary of his birth, a touch of romance was added to the event by Mr. Mershon flying in a modern airplane. The event brings reminiscences covering over 80 years of development in transportation which Mr. Mershon has witnessed. He has ridden in every known conveyance during his life time, the ox-wagon of pioneer days, succeeded by the wagon drawn by horses; the next change being the horse and carriage, then the automobile, and he has lived to witness one of his dreams come true—that of flying through the air at a speed of nearly one mile per minute.

Jared Brush Mershon, born Jan. 28, 1837, died March 7, 1864, father of Eli Mershon, was a native of Erie County, Pa. He was a son of John Mershon, who settled in the wilderness on the shores of Lake Erie soon after the Revolution. He was a son of Aaron Mershon, who was a soldier in the Revolution, and gave his life to the cause of American independence at the Battle of Long Island.

The Mershons are descended from the Huguenots, and the ancestor



ELI MERSHON.



MRS. MARY ELIZABETH MERSHON.





of the family fled to America in 1685 to escape religious persecution in France. The religious feeling which pervaded his descendants is exemplified by the action of the widow of the Revolutionary soldier when a band of British soldiers burned her home on Long Island. She with her seven children were left without a roof over their heads in the dead of winter. Instead of weeping and wailing, as any other woman would have done in like circumstances, she calmly walked to the nearby woods, brushed the snow from a fallen log, sat down and sang a religious hymn.

Jared Brush Mershon, father of Eli Mershon, was married in Indiana to Rebecca Forbes, who was a daughter of William Forbes, who served in the War of 1812, as a volunteer soldier in a force raised to prevent the Indians from the North and Canada from effecting a union with the forces of Chief Tecumseh.

Jared Brush Mershon was a son of John Mershon, who was born Aug. 22, 1773, and died in 1857. He married Bathsheba Brush, of Pittsburgh, Pa., who was born Sept. 17, 1774, and died June 6, 1817. They were married on Nov. 16, 1799.

John Mershon was a son of Aaron Mershon, who was born near Princeton, N. J., in 1740, and died Aug. 27, 1776, on Long Island. His wife was Mary Gapin.

Aaron Mershon was a son of Peter Mershon, wife Jane, who died in June, 1747.

Peter Mershon was a son of Henry Mershon, born in Normandy, France, in 1662, and died in America, Sept. 20, 1738. He immigrated to America in 1685.

Aaron Mershon served in Capt. Benjamin Vancleve's Company, in the New Jersey Militia, under Brigadier-General Nathaniel Green, in Greene's division of the Continental army. He enlisted on June 14, 1776, and was killed at the Battle of Long Island, June 14, 1776.

Jared Brush Mershon moved from Pennsylvania to Indiana, and there married Rebecca Forbes, born 1814, died May 12, 1887, a daughter of William J. Forbes, who had settled in Fountain County, Ind. In early manhood Jared Brush Mershon had become a Methodist preacher, and he became a circuit rider in the then sparsely settled country of Indiana. Rev. Mershon's circuit embraced three congressional districts, formerly the Pottawatomie Indian Reservation. It required three months for him to make the rounds of his circuit, and he was wont to hold meetings in the woods and the cabins of the settlers. Rev. Mershon rode horseback to round up his charges, and during his career he organized many Methodist

churches. He remained in the ministry until his death, in 1864. He reared a family of eight children, only two of whom are living: Eli, of this review, and Quinn, living in Wyoming.

Eli Mershon was educated in the public schools and private academies at Sugar Grove and Thorntown, Ind. He responded to the call of President Lincoln for volunteers in 1861, and enlisted for three months in the Tenth Indiana regiment, 36 hours after the President had called for troops. He had been teaching school, and abandoned the book and rod for the army rifle. Forty-eight hours after the first call he was in Camp Morton in training. Twice the quota called for responded, and half of the willing embryo soldiers were sent home. The rough element who made up the command which he had joined not being to his liking, and the hardships he had to undergo being too severe for a not over strong constitution, Mr. Mershon went home at the expiration of his first enlistment, and remained there for 11 months. He then re-enlisted with the Fourth Indiana cavalry, and served with this regiment until his health failed, in 1863, and he received his honorable discharge. He saw active service in Kentucky and Tennessee, and fought at the Battle of Rich Mountain. During his last service in the advance from Triune, Tenn., which was begun on June 23, 1863, the fighting was constant, while the Federal Army were pursuing General Bragg's forces. Prior to this he had been on detached army duty in northern Kentucky, and was stationed at Mumpfordville, with infantry scouts, and in guarding the Green River bridge.

Mr. Mershon returned home in 1863, married, and went to Illinois, where he taught school during the winter. He then spent two years (1864-1865) on the Neosho River, near the site of Emporia, Kan., and came to Jackson County in November, 1865. Here he met his wife's people, and settled in Fort Osage township. He first lived on a farm purchased by his mother-in-law, and later made his first purchase of 160 acres on the Lexington road. Mrs. Mershon inherited 240 acres from her mother's estate. Mr. Mershon improved the land, and when it came time for his retirement, in 1897, he gave each of his two sons 100 acres of land, with which to begin operations on their own account. Both have succeeded and are large land owners and extensive cattle raisers.

Dec. 19, 1863, Mr. Mershon was married to Mary Elizabeth Thomas, who was born July 6, 1844, in Montgomery County, Ind., a daughter of Philip B. and Delilah J. Thomas, the former of whom died in Indiana, after he had made preparations to locate in Missouri. The widow and son, George A. Thomas, came west, and settled in Jackson County, in



1865. Five children were born to Eli and Mary Elizabeth Mershon, as follow: Maude, wife of Thomas J. Hedrick, Buckner, Mo., a sketch of whom is given in this volume; Zoe, wife of Chase Henthorne, Buckner, Mo.; Thomas Ward, a prosperous farmer in Fort Osage township; Mrs. Jennie R. Hilt, a widow, living in Buckner, is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution; Emory, a successful farmer and stockman.

Mr. Mershon is a Republican, who votes independently. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Well read, an interesting conversationalist, despite his age, taking a keen interest in every day affairs, Eli Mershon is one of the most interesting and lovable pioneer citizens of Jackson County.

Noel E. Jackson, now living retired at Independence, is one of the veteran pioneer Shorthorn breeders of Jackson County, and during his active career was prominently identified with the agricultural interest of this section of Missouri. He is now the owner of 160 acres of productive farm land in Jackson County, which one of his sons is operating, and he also owns 120 acres in St. Clair County.

Noel E. Jackson is a native of North Carolina. He was born in Wake County, Feb. 27, 1855, and reared in Davidson County of that State to the age of 13 years, when he came to Missouri with his parents, and since that time Jackson County has been his home. He is a son of Rev. James B. and Helen (Knight) Jackson, both natives of North Carolina. Rev. James B. Jackson was a minister of the Baptist denomination for 60 years of his life. He was a college graduate, educated at Wake Forest, N. C. He came to Jackson County in 1868, and settled in Van Buren township, where he was engaged in farming, although he continued to preach the gospel. He retired several years before his death, and resided at Independence, Mo. He died in 1904, at the age of 82 years. His wife died in 1905, at the age of 72 years. They are the parents of six children, of whom Noel E., the subject of this sketch, was the second in order of birth.

Noel E. Jackson was 13 years of age when his parents settled in Van Buren township. Here he attended the schools of the neighborhood and assisted with the duties on the home farm. He became familiar with the details of farm life and stock raising early in life, and in the course of time began his independent career as a farmer and stockman. He became a breeder of Shorthorn cattle long before this department of animal husbandry had attained anything like its present recognition, and for 35 years he was one of the leading breeders in Jackson County, and during

the course of that time he always found a ready market for his cattle. He has shipped stock for breeding purposes all over the West. He was not only a successful breeder, but successful in his general farming operations. He was also interested in other fields of enterprise, and was one of the organizers of the Citizens Bank of Lees Summit, and is still a stockholder in that substantial institution.

Mr. Jackson was united in marriage Oct. 17, 1875, with Miss Fannie Duncan, a native of Kentucky, born in August, 1855, and died in Jackson County, in 1909. To Mr. and Mrs. Jackson were born two sons, James D., residing near Cockrel, Van Buren township, and Ernest, who is operating the home place. He was born July 6, 1879, and was educated in the public schools and William Jewell College. He was married Oct. 12, 1909, and has one son, Julian Henry, who bears the distinction of being the youngest Shorthorn breeder on the books of the Shorthorn Breeders' Association.

Noel E. Jackson is a member of the Baptist church, and is a Democrat. He is one of the substantial citizens of Jackson County, and during his career, which has been a successful one, he has done as much, or more, to raise the standard of livestock as any other man in this county. He is well known in Jackson County and highly regarded.

June 5, 1916, he was married the second time to Mrs. Mary L. Parker, a native of Jackson County, Mo. No children have been born to this union.

**John E. Round**, a progressive farmer and stockman, of Van Buren township, is a well known and successful breeder of Spotted Poland China hogs. Although a native of Illinois, he has spent over a half century of his life in Jackson County. Mr. Round was born in Starke County, Ill., Nov. 25, 1856. He is a son of Wilson D. and Mary Jane (Reed) Round, who were the parents of eight children, five of whom are living, John E. being the eldest of the family.

Wilson D. Round was born in Indiana, Aug. 10, 1833. He resided in Illinois when the Civil War broke out and enlisted in the Union army. Most of his time in the service was spent in guarding prisoners at the military prison at Chicago. He came to Jackson County in 1868 or 1869 and settled on a farm in Van Buren township and lived in this county for a number of years and now resides at Oak Grove, Mo. His wife was a native of Ohio and is now 81 years of age.

John E. Round was reared and educated in Jackson County and has always been engaged in farming and stock raising. In 1880 he purchased the farm which he now owns in Van Buren township. It is a well im-



proved place of 117 acres and one of the valuable farms of that section of Jackson County.

Mr. Round was married March 11, 1882, to Miss Mary E. Cave, a native of Jackson County, born in Van Buren township, March 3, 1861. She is a daughter of William and Nancy (Spainhour) Cave, both natives of North Carolina and very early settlers in Jackson County.

To John E. and Mary E. (Cave) Round have been born five children as follows: Pearl, married Roy Thomas and is deceased; Iva, married Lee Ragsdale, Van Buren township; Ethel, married John Marshall near Olathe, Kan.; Elvin, who is engaged in the mercantile business at Lone Jack, Mo., and Roy, deceased.

Mr. Round is a Democrat and takes a commendable interest in political affairs as well as other matters of public concern. He has served as constable of Van Buren township for three terms and has been road overseer. He is a member of the Christian church and holds membership in the Modern Woodman of America.

**Edward P. Mulligan**, a successful farmer and stockman of Prairie township and vice-president of the Farmers Bank of Lees Summit, is the owner of 135 acres of valuable land on the Jefferson highway, about two and one-half miles south of Lees Summit.

Mr. Mulligan was born in Belleville, Ill., Aug. 25, 1872. He is the son of Thomas J. and Mary A. Carroll Mulligan, who are the parents of nine children, five of whom grew to maturity, as follows: Agnes, Cass County, Mo.; Edward P., the subject of this sketch; James A., Prairie township; Ulmar J., Kansas City, and R. Gerald, Cass County.

Thomas J. Mulligan was a native of Illinois, born in Monroe County, May 16, 1835. He came to Missouri in 1881 and settled on a farm in Prairie township and became the owner of 220 acres of land. He was a highly respected citizen and became well to do. He was a member of the Catholic church and the establishment of St. Mary's church at Lees Summit was largely due to his efforts and generosity. He died March 16, 1887.

Thomas J. Mulligan was a son of Patrick and Agnes (Tomlinson) Mulligan, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of England, and early settlers of Monroe County, Ill.

Mary A. Carroll Mulligan, mother of Edward P. was born in Madison County, Ill., Nov. 25, 1839, and died in Kansas City, in 1911. She was a daughter of Patrick and Mary (Gilmore) Carroll, both natives of Ireland.

Edward P. Mulligan was about nine years of age when the family



settled in Jackson County. He attended the district schools and also the Lees Summit High School. He then took a course in Spaulding's Commercial College in Kansas City, where he graduated in 1895.

Mr. Mulligan has been a practical farmer and stockman since early life, and when he was 15 years of age took charge of the home farm for his mother and remained on the place until he was 30 years of age. He purchased his present farm in Prairie township in 1914. He has made extensive improvements and his is one of the valuable farms of that section. The farm residence is modern throughout and the other farm buildings on the place are in keeping with the residence.

Mr. Mulligan was united in marriage April 24, 1903 with Miss Luella Ervin, who was born in Prairie township, Jackson County. She is a daughter of J. H. and Isabelle (Flannery) Ervin, who were early settlers in Jackson County. To Mr. and Mrs. Mulligan have been born two children, Gerald Edward, a student at St. Benedict's College, Atchison, Kan. and Mary Isabelle, at home with her parents.

Mr. Mulligan is a Democrat and a member of the Catholic church.

**Clifford C. Hook**, a well known and progressive citizen of Prairie township is the owner of a splendid farm of 360 acres where he is engaged in the dairy business and he is also an extensive breeder of Holstein cattle. Mr. Hook is a native of Jackson County, born at Greenwood, March 23, 1865. He is a son of John and Luctria (Huston) Hook and is one of three children born to them as follows: Charles, Prairie township; Clifford C., the subject of this sketch, and William B., Denver, Col.

John Hook was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in Oct., 1839. He learned the carpenter trade in early life and when the Civil War broke out he enlisted in the Union army. After the close of the war, 1865, he came to Missouri and first settled at Greenwood. A short time later he moved over the line into Cass County and purchased 80 acres of land for which he paid \$8.00 per acre. He improved this place and remained on it about six years, when he returned to Jackson County and bought 240 acres in Prairie township. Here he built a small house and made other improvements and later erected a more commodious residence which was destroyed by fire. He was engaged in farming and stock raising here for a number of years and met with success. About 25 years ago he retired and he and his wife now reside at Long Beach, Cal. She is also a native of Cincinnati, Ohio and was born in 1841.

Clifford C. Hook was educated in the district school and the State Normal School at Warrensburg. He was engaged in farming on the

home place which he rented from his father until 1902. He then went to Chicago, where he was engaged in the jewelry business from 1902 until 1904, when he returned to Jackson County and operated the home farm for six years. He then went to Chicago and was engaged in the wholesale grocery business for a number of years, when he again returned to Jackson County and bought the home place in Prairie township. He has made extensive improvements. The residence is modern in every particular and the other buildings and improvements about the place are of a substantial character.

Mr. Hook was married Dec. 2, 1891, to Miss Alice Ware, a native of Jackson County and a daughter of A. M. and Jane (Clark) Ware, natives of Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Hook have been born three children, as follows: Auther, resides at home with his parents; Ralph, married Ruby Swanson, a native of Jackson County and they reside on the home place and Gertrude, residing at home with her parents.

Mr. Hook is one of Jackson County's substantial citizens and his progressive methods might well be followed by others with profit.

**Jonathan Peelle**, an enterprising and well to do farmer and stockman of Prairie township and the owner of 330 acres of land has been identified with various interests in Jackson County for nearly 40 years. He was born in Clinton County, Ohio, May 29, 1853 and is the son of Reuben and Emily (Wilson) Peelle, both natives of Ohio, who spent their lives in that state. The father was a farmer.

Jonathan Peelle was reared on a farm in Ohio and educated in the public schools of that state. In 1881, he came to Missouri and settled on a farm of 380 acres, known as "High Grove Farm", Prairie township. He remained there until 1900, when he sold out and purchased his present farm which is a valuable and well improved place.

Mr. Peelle has been interested in other fields of industry outside the realm of agriculture. He was engaged in the cider and vinegar business at Lees Summit for 12 years during which time he served as mayor of Lees Summit two terms. He lived in Kansas City, Mo., from 1905 to 1910.

June 22, 1879, Jonathan R. Peelle was united in marriage at Wilmington, Ohio, with Miss Mary Elizabeth Bailey. She is a native of Guernsey County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Jesse and Mary Jane (Talbot) Bailey, natives of Ohio. They came to Jackson County in 1866 and settled near Lees Summit where the father became owner of 320 acres of land. He died in 1905. To Mr. and Mrs. Peelle have been born five chil-



dren: Elvin B., an electrician, married Fannie Marcham, of St. Joseph, Mo. and now resides on the home place; Harold M. married Frances Crow, of Topeka, Kan., and has four children, Jonathan W., Harold M., Jr., Alvin F. and Elmer E.; Frank H., married Evelyn Swearingen of Kansas City, and has two children; Elizabeth L. and Margaret E.; Ralph T., an electrician, resides in Omaha, Neb. and is unmarried, and Robert J., an electrician in the employ of the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Omaha, Neb., is unmarried.

Mr. Peelle is inclined to be independent in political matters and is a representative of a high type of American citizens. He is a Mason and a member of the Shrine.

**John T. House.**—Without doubt the oldest living native born pioneer of Brooking township, and one of the oldest in Jackson County, is John T. House, who has lived in the same neighborhood during his entire life, which has already exceeded four score years. Pioneer, veteran of the Civil War, owner of a fine farm of 147 acres, father of a fine family of sons and daughters, "Uncle Johnny," as he is affectionately known to his many friends, is an honored and well known figure in Jackson County. He was born Jan. 25, 1838, within sight and sound of his present home. He is a son of Eli and Irene (West) House, the latter a native of Indiana. Eli House was born in Kentucky, and was reared in Indiana. In 1827 he came west to Clay County, Mo., and lived there for nine years. In 1836 he came to Jackson County, and was here married to Irene West. He purchased land and improved his farm, and was prospering until the Civil War broke out. Eli House was killed during the Civil War by some of Jennison's men, because of his so-called Southern sympathies. He was the father of eight children, only three of whom are living: John T., the subject of this review; Mrs. Lucy Wilson, living two miles south; Mrs. Anna Burk, Joplin, Mo.

Soon after the outbreak of the Civil War, Mr. House enlisted in the cavalry organized in Jackson County, and fought at the Battle of Rock Creek. His commander was Dr. Smith. He served with the State guards at first, but later went into the regular Confederate service. He refused to go with Raines to Louisiana, and came back and joined Colonel Hayes' regiment. In the fall of 1863 he joined Quantrell's band—being induced to do so by the fact that Jennison's men had killed his father, burned the House home, and run off the livestock, leaving the family destitute. He stayed with Quantrell until the trouble came up with Todd, who was killed. He then volunteered and took part in the raid through north Mis-





JOHN T. HOUSE AND FAMILY.



souri, being on the road for two weeks. His horse playing out, they wanted him to go to Bone Hill, but he could not do so. It was the plan of Quantrell's men to disband after committing a depredation, and then meet at a certain rendezvous. After this raid, Quantrell made his hiding place in Chariton County. The men of the company wanted House to go after Quantrell. He refused to do so, and had a falling out with his comrades. He then joined Gen. Joe Shelby's command, and was with Shelby's men until their surrender at Shreveport, La.

July 1, 1865, he arrived home sick with rheumatism and neuralgia contracted in the South. When he recovered he hired out with a transport to take a quartz mill to a mining camp in Colorado. He remained in the mining region for two years, and then returned home to settle down to the peaceful pursuit of agriculture. Mr. House proceeded to develop his farm, built a home, which was later superceded by a commodious farm residence, and has risen to become a substantial and well respected citizen of the county.

Mr. House was married in 1886 to Miss Alice Moberly, who was born in Indiana, a daughter of William Moberly. Four children were born to this marriage, as follow: James Luther, John Elmer, and Homer R., who are operating the House farm; and Iva May, wife of Orlando Twiehaus, living one mile and a half northwest, who has one child, Evelyn. John Elmer married Lena Stricke, and has one child, Beulah. Homer R. married Hulday Alman. Luther House served in the National Army and was in training at Fort Dodge, Iowa, in 1918. He served on the western front in France until the armistice was declared.

Mr. House has been a life long Democrat. He is a member of the Baptist church, and is one of the fine, old pioneer characters of Jackson County. As Mr. House says of himself, "I am only a little over 80 years old." We agree with him and predict many more years for this aged and respected gentleman.

**Lewis Bennett**, a prominent farmer and stock breeder of Prairie township, has been identified with the interests of Jackson County for 55 years and has contributed his part to the great growth and development of this section of the country during the last half century. Mr. Bennett is a native of Ohio, born at Zanesville, Nov. 7, 1848. He is a son of Uriah P. and Nancy (Harper) Bennett, and was the youngest of a family of four children born to them and the only one living.

The parents of Lewis Bennett were both natives of Virginia and are descendants of early settlers of Virginia in colonial times. Uriah P. Ben-



nett was born in Virginia, May 19, 1814 and when a child two years of age he was brought to Muskingum County, Ohio, in 1816. He grew to manhood in Ohio and in 1840 married Nancy Harper at Charlottesville, Va. She was born at Charlottesville, Sept. 27, 1814 and died Dec. 23, 1886. In 1860, Uriah P. Bennett and his family came to St. Louis, where they resided during the Civil War. At the close of the war, in 1865, they came to Jackson County and bought a farm two miles north of Independence. Sixteen years later they moved to Lees Summit. Uriah P. Bennett died in Kansas City, Mo., June 19, 1894. He was a progressive man and a good citizen and after coming to Jackson County contributed his part towards the readjustment of the county which followed the devastation of war. He was an ardent advocate of the cause of education and was one of the organizers of the first public schools of Independence and was a member of the board. When he came to Jackson County he was one of the first passengers on the regular passenger train which made the trip from St. Louis to Independence.

Lewis Bennett came to Jackson County with his parents in 1865 and after coming here was associated with his father in fruit growing, an industry in which the father was an expert and to which he gave much attention. The Bennetts introduced cultivated raspberries in Jackson County and when they hauled the first load of these berries into Kansas City the people did not know what they were. They sold the product of their fruit in Kansas City and also shipped to Denver, Col. For their shipment of peaches to Denver they received 24 cents a bushel. Lewis Bennett owned land in the vicinity of Independence and later bought land near Lees Summit, where he engaged in breeding pure-bred Shorthorn cattle and sheep. His stock was frequently exhibited at state fairs and other stock exhibitions, winning many premiums. In 1901 he moved to his present place in Prairie township where he owns 160 acres of land and upon which he has made extensive improvements. He is still engaged in breeding Shorthorn cattle and has won a wide reputation as a successful breeder. His sons are engaged in breeding Poland China hogs and are meeting with success in that industry.

Oct. 20, 1874, Lewis Bennett was united in marriage with Miss Kate A. Powell, a native of Columbus, Ohio. She is a daughter of Jacob and Eliza H. (Brown) Powell, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Pennsylvania. The Powell family came to Jackson County in 1865 and settled east of Independence. Mrs. Bennett was one of a family of 11 children born to her parents and was the tenth in order of birth. To Mr.

and Mrs. Bennett have been born four children as follows: Nannie B., deceased; Harper, Kansas City, Mo.; J. Park, field manager for the Capper Publications in Missouri; Lewis G., a breeder of Poland China hogs, resides at home with his parents. He is an expert buyer of hogs for the Armour Packing Company and is now head buyer for that concern.

Mr. Bennett is a Republican and a member of the Presbyterian church. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World. He has a long and honorable record in Jackson County to his credit and is representative of the highest type of our citizenship.

**Joe S. Noel**, a progressive young business man of Lees Summit, who engaged in the wholesale and retail grain business and also an extensive dealer in hay, flour and feed, is a native son of Jackson County and a descendant of one of the earliest pioneer families of this section of the state. He was born at Lone Jack, Nov. 28, 1894 and is a son of George H. and Minnie (Shaw) Noel. They were the parents of two children of whom Joe S. is the elder. The younger son, George W., resides with his mother at 2638 Benton Boulevard, Kansas City.

George H. Noel was prominently identified with Jackson County during his lifetime. He was a member of the State Legislature during the session of 1896-1898 and was influential in that body. Among the many measures of which he was the author was the Jackson County Good Road Law. The enactment of this law put him on record as one of the pioneer good roads advocate and law makers of this country. This bill was so framed that the revenue from the dramshop licenses was applied to the building of good roads.

George H. Noel was born near Lone Jack in 1853. He was a son of James and Rachel (Powell) Noel, both natives of Missouri and among the early settlers of Jackson County. George H. Noel was a graduate of William Jewell College. In early life he was engaged in farming and stock raising but for 15 years prior to his death he was engaged in the real estate business. He died in Kansas City in 1917 and his widow now resides in that city. He was well to do at the time of his death, owning 160 acres of land in Prairie township, also property at Lees Summit and in Kansas City. He was a prominent Democrat and a member of the Baptist church.

Joe S. Noel was reared on a farm in Jackson County and received his education in the public schools. In 1911 he entered the State Normal School at Warrensburg and was graduated from that institution in the class of 1913. He then entered the Missouri Inspection Department and



became weigh master, then grain sampler, and was later promoted to grain inspector. July 4, 1919, he engaged in the grain, hay and feed business at Lees Summit where he also operates a mill. He has done an extensive business from the start and during the first three months he handled 55 car loads of wheat and ten car loads of feed.

Oct. 12, 1916, Joe S. Noel was united in marriage with Miss Bernice Kenton, a native of Harden, Mo., and a daughter of William P. Kenton. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Noel, Mary Kenton Noel.

Mr. Noel is a Democrat and a member of the Methodist church.

**Fayette H. Botts**, a leading farmer and stockman of Washington township and the owner of 113 acres of valuable land, is a native of Kentucky. He was born at Owensville, Ky., Oct. 10, 1855, and is the only child born to Archibald and Margaret A. (Markham) Botts. The father died in Kentucky when Fayette H. was an infant. The mother had been previously married in Kentucky to James Stone and to that union five or six children had been born. After the death of her second husband, Archibald Botts, the mother came to Missouri and settled in Jackson County in 1856, before Fayette H. was a year old. She brought her family of five children and 21 slaves and here she and her older sons engaged in farming. Their place was located about four miles east of Kansas City. During the war and when Order No. 11 was issued the mother removed to Columbia, Mo. with her family where she remained until the close of hostilities.

Fayette H. Botts returned to Jackson County with the family after the war and 1869 they settled on the place where he now resides. He has always been engaged in farming and stock raising and in addition to his general farming has made a success of breeding Shorthorn cattle. He has made extensive improvements on his place, which is one of the valuable farms of Jackson County. In addition to carrying on general farming and stock raising, Mr. Botts was not unmindful of other business enterprises and opportunities. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Bank of Grandview, Mo. and is vice-president of that institution.

Oct. 5, 1887, Fayette H. Botts was united in marriage with Miss Ola M. Marshall, a native of Boone County, Ky. She is a daughter of John Thomas and Hannah Mary (Ambrose) Marshall, both natives of Kentucky, who settled in Jackson County, Mo. in 1878. John Thomas Marshall is now deceased and his widow resides with Mr. and Mrs. Botts. To Mr. and Mrs. Botts have been born three children as follows: Fayette



Arthur, Henry Walker and James Samuel, all of whom are residing at home with their parents.

Mr. Botts is a Democrat and holds membership in the Modern Woodmen of America. He and his family are members of the Baptist church and are well known and rank high in Jackson County.

**William O. Snider**, a well known and successful general insurance man and real estate dealer, of Lees Summit is a native of Jackson County and a descendant of pioneer settlers of this section. He was born Dec. 24, 1865 on a farm which is now included within the present city limits of Kansas City, Mo. and was located in the vicinity of the intersection of 18th and Prospect streets. Mr. Snider is a son of William W. and Emily J. (Kreeger) Snider and is one of five children born to them as follows: David C., Lees Summit; Eugene, Belton; Amanda, married Z. Cooper, Jr., Lees Summit; William O., the subject of this sketch, and Frank R. of Lees Summit.

William W. Snider was born in North Carolina in 1825. He came to Missouri with his family, he having been married in his native state and settled in Jackson County prior to the Civil War. He first located on a farm which is now a part of the well known Long farm. During the Civil War when Order No. 11 was issued, he moved to Kansas City where he remained for three years until the close of the war. He then returned to his farm in Prairie township where he owned 160 acres of land. He was a successful farmer and stock raiser and became well to do. He was a Democrat and a representative citizen. He died in 1897. His widow, who was also a native of North Carolina, born in 1833, now resides with her son, David C., at Lees Summit.

William O. Snider was born on the home farm and attended the public school in that vicinity. He learned the details of farming and stock raising in early life and when he was 21 years of age he engaged in farming for himself in Prairie township. He followed farming until 1904, during which time he owned several different farms in Jackson County. In 1904, he moved to Lees Summit and engaged in the real estate and general insurance business to which he has since devoted himself. He has built up an extensive business which extends over a large scope of territory and has handled many important real estate deals, during the past 16 years that he has been in the business.

Mr. Snider was united in marriage April 15, 1888 with Miss Rose B. Norvell, a native of Jackson County. She is a daughter of Benjamin F. and Mary Ann (Risk) Norvell, natives of Indiana and early settlers in

Jackson County. The mother is deceased and the father makes his home with his children.

To William O. Snider and wife have been born six children as follows: Mrs. Lena A. Jones has one daughter, Mildred, and resides at Lees Summit; Burmace, resides at home with her parents; Hubert H. is auditor and teller in the Missouri Savings Bank, Kansas City, Mo.; Ruth O.; Nellie M. and William F., residing at home with their parents.

Mr. Snider is a Democrat and takes a commendable interest in public affairs and especially public schools. He was a member of the school board of the Rockford district in 1901 and was one of the organizers of the first consolidated district schools in the state. He with five others erected the building. For the past nine years Mr. Snider has been a member of the Lees Summit school board and has served as president of the board for three years. He has also served on the city counsel for two years.

Mr. Snider is a member of the Christian church and other members of the family belong to the Methodist church.

**Jerry A. Wood**, now living retired at Lees Summit, is a native of Jackson County and the descendant of one of the oldest pioneer families in this section of the state. He was born in Blue township Sept. 2, 1845, and was the only child born to James R. and Jane (Chrisman) Wood. After the death of Jerry A. Wood's mother, his father married Nancy Chrisman, a cousin of his first wife. Further details of the history of the Wood family appear in connection with the sketch of J. D. Wood in this volume.

Jerry A. Wood was reared on the home farm surrounded by the primitive conditions of pioneer days and was living the life of the average young man of his time when the Civil War broke out. When 16 years of age, in 1861, he left school and enlisted in the Confederate army at the first call to arms. He became a member of Company A, Tenth Missouri Cavalry under General Marmaduke. He participated in a number of engagements in Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana and was at the engagement of Lexington, Mo. After the close of the war, in 1867, he returned to the home place and proceeded to rebuild and repair the improvements which had been destroyed during the war. He followed farming on the home place for a number of years. He then bought a farm near Lees Summit which he sold in 1910.

Mr. Wood was first married to Permelia Totten and to this union two children were born: Elizabeth, married James Mueller, Los Angeles, Cal.



and Anna, married Elmer Bull, Kansas City, Mo. The mother of these children died about 1894. Mr. Wood's second wife bore the maiden name of Eliza Ann Dark. No children were born to this union. Some years after the death of his second wife Mr. Wood was married in February, 1910, to Mrs. Sarah E. (Whitehouse) Harrill, a widow. She was born in Kentucky and came to Missouri with her parents and settled near Raytown when she was a child.

Mr. Wood is a Democrat and for a number of years held the office of the justice of peace in Prairie township. He is a member of the Baptist church and has lived an honorable and upright life.

**Compton J. Tucker**, general manager of the Longview Farm, is identified with an institution not only well known in Jackson County but which is celebrated throughout the West. The Longview Stock Farm is recognized in the agricultural world as representing what might properly be said to be the last word in farming and nearly every department of animal husbandry. This farm contains 1,636 acres which were acquired by purchase from 15 different land owners by Mr. R. A. Long in 1912 and Mr. Tucker has had the general management of the place since that time and the constructive development of this place has been under his immediate supervision to the present time.

There are 65 buildings on Longview Farm, including a church, school-house, club house, four greenhouses and there are over 29 miles of fence, built without nails or bolts. There are 175 employees and 12 tenant buildings for the accommodation of the various employees. There are over 900 head of livestock and Longview Farm is celebrated the country over for its standard bred Kentucky saddle horses, harness horses and pure bred Jersey cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs.

The milk supply from Longview Farm is noted for its excellency of quality and the sanitary methods with which it is handled. All milk from this dairy is certified by the Jackson County Medical Milk Commission and the major portion of it, which consists of about 1,000 quarts per day, is fed to Kansas City babies.

Every animal in the Jersey herd is registered; every cow is in the register of merit or on test, and any cow that fails to make the requirements is disposed of immediately.

The milk sales from this farm amount to about \$55,000.00 annually and the livestock sales amount to about \$200,000.00. The sale of flowers alone amount to \$25,000.00.

Compton J. Tucker is a native of Tennessee. He was born at Nash-



ville March 31, 1881, and is a son of J. B. and Thomas Ann (Compton) Tucker and is one of two children born to them, the other one being Marion, now the wife of H. M. Jones of Nashville, Tenn.

J. B. Tucker and his wife were natives of Tennessee. They came to Jackson County, Mo., in 1885 and the father first rented a farm of 2,260 acres near Kansas City, which now composes a part of Swope Park. He also lived on the Wornall Farm for a time. He bought and sold livestock as well as carrying on general farming and stock raising and was also an extensive and successful stock feeder. He was a progressive citizen and a good business man. He was a Democrat and took a commendable interest in public affairs. He and his wife are both deceased.

Compton J. Tucker received his education in the public schools of Kansas City which included a high school course and he also attended the Webb Preparatory School of Bellbuckle, Tenn. and the Vanderbilt University at Nashville, Tenn. After completing his schooling he entered the employ of the American Can Company of Kansas City, Mo. and was a traveling salesman for three years. He then went with the Long-Bell Lumber Co. and was in the employ of that concern until he accepted his present position in 1912 and since that time has been general manager of the Longview Farm.

Sept. 19, 1903, Compton J. Tucker was united in marriage with Miss Ethel Leeke of Oxford, Pa. To Mr. and Mrs. Tucker have been born two children, Compton H., who is 11 years old and Mary Elizabeth, nine. Mr. and Mrs. Tucker are members of the Christian church.

**Newton J. Sechrest.**—Only a few of the old settlers remain in Brook-  
ing township. Passing years have taken their toll of the real old pioneer families of this part of Jackson County, and the old estates have been broken up, due to the encroachment of the suburban section of Kansas City. Newton J. Sechrest, residing on the Sechrest rock road, in the southwestern part of the township, is one of the few old timers left in the neighborhood. The Sechrest farm of 297 acres is one of the best improved, upon which Mr. Sechrest has lived practically all of his nearly three score and ten years. He was born Nov. 11, 1850, in Grant County, Ky., and was a son of Charles and Katie Sechrest, both of whom were natives of Kentucky.

Charles Sechrest came to Missouri in 1856, and settled on the farm which Mr. Sechrest of this review now owns. He built a home and developed the farm, dying here in 1864, at the age of 62 years. His death was caused by becoming overheated on a hot August day, and he died a



NEWTON J. SECHREST AND FAMILY.





week later. Mrs. Sechrest died in 1897, at the age of 81 years. To Charles and Katie Sechrest were born 14 children, 12 of whom were reared to maturity, as follow: Theophilus, a veteran of the Civil War, deceased; Jacob, Charles William, Martha Ann, Theodore and Louisa, deceased; Joshua, a veteran of the Civil War, lives in California; Thomas, deceased, veteran of the Civil War; John, residing on the old Shanks farm; Janie, deceased; Newton J., of this review; Edward, a farmer, southwest of Topeka, Kan.

Newton J. Sechrest attended the district school in his boyhood days, and grew up on his father's farm. When Order No. 11 was issued the family took refuge at the Government Post at Hickman's Mill. In the meantime the family had suffered from the depredations of the Kansas Redlegs, who stole the livestock, including eight head of mules and other family belongings. His mother stood at the gate bravely trying to save some of the livestock, but the leader of the band threatened to burn the house if she refused to let them have the mules. Mr. Sechrest began his career with a small farm of 26 acres, in 1867. This tract, with a timber tract of seven acres, was his share of his father's estate. He, with this small nucleus to begin with, has in the course of years, acquired one of the most valuable country estates in Jackson County, consisting of 297 acres. The imposing Sechrest farm residence was erected in 1904.

Mr. Sechrest was married in 1883 to Miss Laura Flanagan, who was born Feb. 10, 1855, on a farm one mile south of her present home. She is a daughter of John and Cornelia (McGuire) Flanagan, the former of whom was a native of Ireland, and the latter of Kentucky. John Flanagan was an early settler in Jackson County, was married here, and lived in the county the remainder of his life. He died in October, 1898, and his wife, Cornelia, died in November, 1899. There were six children in the Flanagan family, as follow: Francis, Kansas City; Louis, Blue Springs; William, Kansas City; Daniel, deceased; Mrs. Laura Sechrest, of this review; and Mrs. Emma Parker, Blue Springs.

The children born to Newton J. and Laura Sechrest are: Thomas Daniel, Lee Edgar, Goldenia, Cornelia, Jesse, Laura Edna. Thomas Daniel Sechrest married Alma Martin, and lives at Raymore, Mo. Lee Edgar Sechrest married Eva Tolliver, and has three children, Edna Lorraine, Newton Lee, and Herbert Claude. Mrs. Goldenia Elliot lives at Ottawa, Kan. Cornelia, or "Connie," Jesse Flanagan, and Laura Edna are at home with their parents.

Jesse Flanagan Sechrest is the soldier of the family. He was in-

ducted into the National Army May 24, 1918, and was in the service for ten months, as a private, in infantry at Camp Nichols, New Orleans, and Camp Logan, Texas, with the Forty-third infantry. He received an honorable discharge from the service March 15, 1919.

Mr. Sechrest is a Democrat, and a member of the Christian church.

**Orlando V. Slaughter**, a well known and successful farmer and dairyman, who is also engaged in breeding Jersey cattle in Washington township, is a native of Jackson County and a descendant of one of the honored pioneer families of this county. Mr. Slaughter was born in Washington township, Aug. 9, 1854, and is a son of E. F. and Amanda (Davenport) Slaughter.

Orlando V. Slaughter is the eldest of six children born to his parents, the others being as follows: William, Portland, Ore.; Stephen D., Kansas City, Mo.; Franklin, Portland, Ore.; Ida, married Dr. Swaney, a physician of Kansas City; and Ernest E., Leoti, Kan.

E. F. Slaughter, father of Orlando V., was born in Washington County, Tenn. and in early life the family moved to Kentucky. In 1852, E. F. Slaughter came to Jackson County, Mo., locating at Independence. He was married there and later settled in Washington township, Jackson County, where he was successfully engaged in farming and stock raising throughout his life. He died Oct. 2, 1902, at the age of 78 years. Amanda (Davenport) Slaughter was a native of Madison County, Ky., born in 1831 and died in Jackson County in 1919.

Orlando V. Slaughter was reared on his father's farm in Jackson County and attended the district school. Later he was a student at the University of Missouri at Columbia for two years. Like many others in this section, the father lost heavily during the Civil War and at the close of that conflict was practically penniless and young Slaughter justly thought that he owed his first duty to his parents and for a number of years after the war he remained at home and assisted his parents and also worked as a farm laborer in the neighborhood. In 1884, he purchased a farm from the James West estate, which was located where Raytown now stands. Thirteen years later he sold that place and bought his present farm in Washington township. He has a well improved place which is well equipped with a special view of carrying on dairying by the most modern approved methods. His dairy barn is calculated to accommodate about 30 head of milch cows. He sells the product of his dairy, which consists of cream, in Kansas City. It is hauled to the city by auto trucks. In addition to equipping his place for the dairy business, Mr. Slaughter



has made other extensive improvements and has one of the most modern farm p'lants in Jackson County, where he also carries on general farming.

Nov. 2, 1882, Orlando V. Slaughter was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Havron, a native of Bedford County, Ind. She is a daughter of John N. and Mary L. (Miller) Havron, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Lawrence County, Ind. and early settlers in Jackson County, coming here in 1868. To Mr. and Mrs. Slaughter have been born eight children as follows: Maj. Homer H., a graduate of the West Point Military Academy, has been in the United States army for the past ten years and during the World War served in Russia as staff officer of the Intelligence Department and is now doing service in Siberia; William, resides at home with his father; John M., county agent for Atchison County, Mo.; Seth W., now in the employ of the government at Waukegon, Ill., as a camp pastor at Great Lakes training camp, also minister of the Christian church at Waukegon, Ill.; Minor M., enlisted in the United States army in 1917 and after serving through the World War was discharged, Aug. 2, 1919, and is now a student of mechanical engineering in the Missouri State University at Columbia; Ruth, a student in the State University at Columbia; Stephen, residing at home; and Eunice, at home.

Mr. Slaughter is a Democrat and a member of the Christian church. He is one of Jackson County's substantial citizens and is public spirited and progressive.

**Frank G. Lightfoot**, although a native of Kentucky, he has been a resident of Missouri since childhood and for the past 20 years has been successfully identified with the agricultural interests of Jackson County. Mr. Lightfoot now owns and operates 100 acres of valuable land in Van Buren township. His place is well improved and located on the Rock road which also enhances its value and gives him accessibility to the markets at all seasons. He was born in Pendleton County, Ky., June 28, 1872, and is a son of John E. and Louisa Colvin Lightfoot, early settlers of Missouri. They settled in Johnson County about 1882.

Frank G. Lightfoot was reared on the farm in Johnson County and educated in the district school at Pittsville. He remained at home with his parents until 1899, when he came to Jackson County and rented a farm of 80 acres near Lone Jack in Van Buren township. Here he operated rented land for several years and in 1904 bought a farm of 25 acres near Lone Jack. He sold that place in 1910 and purchased his present farm of 100 acres, where he has since been successfully engaged in farming and stock raising.



Nov. 20, 1898, Mr. Lightfoot was married to Miss Maggie Rowland, a native of Jackson County and a daughter of Buford and Nancy (Yankee) Rowland. A more extensive review of the Rowland family appears elsewhere in this volume, in connection with a sketch of Luther Rowland, a brother of Mrs. Lightfoot. To Mr. and Mrs. Lightfoot have been born two children, Louise, who resides at home with her parents and one died in infancy.

Mr. Lightfoot is a Democrat and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is one of Jackson County's well known and highly respected citizens and the Lightfoot family stand high in the community.

**William H. Pittenger**, a Union veteran of the Civil War and an early settler in Jackson County, now deceased, was for many years prominently identified with this section of Missouri. He was a native of Ohio, born in Adams County, Nov. 17, 1835, and died in Jackson County, Jan. 5, 1899.

William H. Pittenger is a son of Wesley and Catherine (Copel) Pittenger, who were the parents of seven children, five of whom grew to maturity, as follows: William H., the subject of this sketch; Wilson, Adams County, Ohio; Lizzie, married James A. Gash, Adams County, Ohio; Annie, married A. A. Robertson and is now deceased; and Jane, married R. E. Pittenger and is also deceased. William H. Pittenger's father was also a native of Adams County, Ohio, born in 1818, and his father was a native of Maryland and a pioneer of Adams County, Ohio. Catherine Copel Pittenger was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1811.

William H. Pittenger, the subject of this sketch, was educated in North Liberty Academy in Adams County, Ohio, and in early manhood taught school for four years in his native county. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted in 1861, becoming a member of Company I, 39th Ohio Infantry. In the course of his early military career he was promoted first to corporal, then sergeant, commissary sergeant, second lieutenant, first lieutenant and captain, and was serving in the latter capacity when the Civil War closed. During the early part of his experience in the army, his command operated in northern Missouri. Feb. 22, 1862, he was transferred to St. Louis, where the Union organization was being carried out preparatory to Island No. 10 campaign and thus began his service farther south. He took part in a number of battles of importance as well as a countless number of minor engagements although he was never wounded. He was at the battle of Platte City, Lexington and New Madrid; he was with the troops that went to Fort Pillow with the Union fleet; he was at the battle of Pittsburgh Landing, Corinth and Iuka and was

with Grant at the siege of Vicksburg. He then returned to Jackson, Tenn. and took part in the battle of Parker's Cross Roads and did guard duty at Memphis, Tenn. He was with Sherman on his march through Georgia and also took part in the siege of Atlanta and was there when that city fell. He was with the Federal troops that pursued General Hood's army as far as the Tennessee River, after which he returned to the Atlanta campaign. After the surrender of Lee, he marched with his troops to Washington, D. C. and took part in the Grand Review. Capt. Pittenger kept a daily record of his doings and experiences throughout the Civil War, which contains many entries of interest at the present day. This record shows that he marched over 17,000 miles while in the service. He served for a time on General Fuller's staff and altogether has a remarkable military career to his credit. After the close of the war he returned to Ohio and the following year. In April, 1866, he came to Jackson County with his wife. In 1867, he purchased a farm of 125 acres in Washington township where he was successfully engaged in farming and stock raising during the remainder of his life. He took a prominent part in public affairs in Jackson County and was active in the ranks of the Republican party, although he never aspired to hold public office. He was a member of the Republican Central Committee for 17 years and for a number of years was chairman of the Washington Township Committee. He was a great friend of the public school system and did much to promote good schools in the community. He was a prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

May 3, 1866, William H. Pittenger was united in marriage with Miss Maria Louisa Dryden, a native of Ohio. She was born in Adams County, Feb. 28, 1844, and is a daughter of Thos. G. and Elizabeth (Ellis) Dryden, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Ohio. The Drydens are an old American family and members of this family have served in all the wars in which this country has been engaged since 1776. Thomas G. Dryden was born in 1813 and died at Lees Summit, Mo., in 1904.

To William H. and Maria Louisa (Dryden) Pittenger were born the following children: Effie May, married James E. Burton of Kansas City, Mo. and they have two children, Ralph and Grace; Thomas, deceased; Arthur, a concrete construction contractor, Kansas City, Mo.; Nora A., married W. T. Palmer, Hickman Mill, Mo., and she has two children, the eldest, Earl, having served in the navy during the World War; Edward, deceased; Ira, resides on the home place with his mother; and Homer, a government employee at Washington, D. C.



Mrs. Pittenger and her son Ira operate the home farm which consists of 125 acres of valuable Jackson County land and here they carry on general farming and stock raising, and rank among Jackson County's most successful citizens. The Pittenger family are members of the Christian church.

**Charles D. Carson**, a well known and successful undertaker of Independence, Mo., has been identified with the interests of Jackson County for 20 years. Mr. Carson is a native of Canada, born Feb. 12, 1865. He is the son of Rev. Dixon and Mary Ann Carson. The Carson family came to Missouri in 1867, and settled on a farm near St. Joseph and two years later moved to Marshall County, Kan., where the parents spent the remainder of their lives. The father died July 29, 1874, and the mother departed this life in August of the same year. Their remains are buried at Marysville, Kan.

Rev. Dixon and Mary Ann Carson were the parents of the following children: John, died at Waterville, Kan. in 1880 at the age of 40 years; Mrs. Margaret Transue, 201 South Pendleton St., Independence; Mrs. Priscilla Cottrell died at Marysville, Kan.; Mrs. Dorcas Hutchinson died at Beatty, Kan.; Mrs. Letta Dewey was the wife of Sanford W. Dewey, a nephew of Admiral George Dewey, died at Clyde, Kan.; Charles D., the subject of this sketch; Ada Carson, who has been in the employ of the Western Union Telegraph Company, as a telegraph operator for 30 years, resides at Liberal, Kan.; George W., who has been in the employ of the Union Pacific Railroad as station agent and telegraph operator for 35 years, resides at Salina, Kan.

Charles D. Carson received his early education in the public schools of Clay County, Kan. and in early boyhood worked as a farm laborer. After having saved \$150 out of his meager earnings, he was taken sick with typhoid fever, which necessitated the expenditure of all his savings. In 1885 he attended the Kansas State Agricultural College at Manhattan, Kan. and for 15 years following 1887, he was engaged in teaching in the public schools of Kansas. In 1900 he came to Jackson County and after taking a course in the Myers School of Embalming, he engaged in the undertaking business in Independence. His business venture was a success from the start and he is recognized as one of the leading undertakers of this section. His place of business is located at the corner of Lexington and Union streets.

Mr. Carson was united in marriage Dec. 5, 1890 with Miss Emily L. Curtis of Clay Center, Kan. She was born at Clay Center, Kan. and was



reared and educated there. She is a daughter of Frank A. and Louisa (Hall) Curtis. The father died at Clay Center, in April, 1911, and the mother now resides in Independence. To Mr. and Mrs. Carson have been born the following children: Dorcas, married Hugo O. Kepley, Independence; Violet E., married John Earbach, Newark, N. J.; George C., who is assisting his father, married Flo Ratcliff and resides in Independence; Minnie E., married Noble Griffin, who is a veteran of the World War; Charles D., Jr., a student in the Independence High School. The following are the grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Carson: Dixon Kepley, Edmond Carson Kepley, Violet Emily Kepley, Kenneth Kepley and Floyd Curtiss Carson.

Since locating in Jackson County, Mr. Carson has attended strictly to business, which together with his courteous manner and obliging methods has made his career a successful one.

**Harrison T. Welch**, deputy county clerk of Jackson County, was born April 23, 1877 and is a son of Warren W. Welch whose wife was Elizabeth Harris prior to her marriage. The only other child of Warren W. Welch was Isaac P. Welch deceased. He married Carrie Gordon of Oak Grove, Mo., where she now resides.

Warren W. Welch was a son of Simeon Welch, a pioneer of the eastern part of Jackson County. Warren W. Welch served in the Civil War with the Confederate forces under General Price in General Marmaduke's division and was a private in General Shelby's brigade. While he was away fighting for the Confederacy, Federal soldiers took his mother and five children away from the home after burning and looting it, the family escaping with only the clothing which they wore, and took them southward. Later some of their friends espied the family on an island in the Arkansas River, rescued them and cared for them until Simeon Welch provided a home for them. After the war Simeon Welch returned to Jackson County, but not long afterward he sold his farm and moved to Arkansas, both he and his wife ending their days on a place about 50 miles west of Fayetteville.

Harrison T. Welch was educated in the public schools and followed the real estate business in Independence and Kansas City prior to his appointment as deputy county clerk. He was married to Dessa D. Davidson, of Kingston, Mo., a daughter of James and Amanda Davidson, now residing in Independence. Mr. and Mrs. Welch have two children: Covene Thelma and Helena Caro'ine. The first wife of Mr. Welch was Sallie May Brizendine, who died in 1899, one month after the marriage.

**William Lane**, retired veteran of the Civil War, former merchant, resides on his fine farm of 87.5 acres, in Brooking township. He was born in Madison County, Ky., Jan. 26, 1839, and is a son of Fielding Harrison and Elizabeth (Larrimore) Lane, who were born, reared and married in Kentucky. In 1839 they drove to Jackson County in an ox-cart, accompanied by two horses and two bulldogs, and Silas and William Lane, the latter then an infant. The father settled in a log cabin belonging to Reuben Markaby, entered 80 acres of government land, and purchased other farm land, totaling over 700 acres. This land was at that time covered with a heavy growth of timber, and it proved to be a tremendous job to clear it of the timber growth and break the ground for planting after burning the undergrowth and stumps. However, F. H. Lane came from a race of pioneers who had been doing identical tasks for generations, and it was the regular procedure for the new comers to settle on timber land, thus insuring them a plentiful supply of water, and wood from which to obtain fuel and lumber with which to build fences and buildings. In his boyhood days, William Lane rolled walnut logs, split them into rails and burned timber which at that time was useless. He recalls burning huge logs which today would bring from \$75 to \$100 each. The children born to Fielding H. and Elizabeth Lane were: Silas, deceased; William, of this review; Mary, Philip, James, deceased; Sallie who resides on the old home place; and John, deceased.

William Lane of this review enlisted in 1861, in Raines Brigade, Col. Ross' Regiment of Cavalry, Confederate army and served for nearly two years. He became ill at Boston Mountains and went to Texas. He fought at the battle of Lexington and took part in many minor engagements. He fought at Sugar Creek Point, Ark. He remained in Texas for six months in the effort to regain his health and during the greater part of this time he was speechless. He returned home very weak and run down but after six months nursing and rest he recovered.

For 26 years after their marriage in 1867 Mr. and Mrs. Lane lived in Clay County. They spent 13 years on the farm and then lived for 13 years at Liberty where they removed for the purpose of educating their children. Mr. and Mrs. Lane returned to Jackson County in 1893 and in 1895 they built their beautiful home.

William Lane was married in 1867 to Frances Pogue who was born in Jessamine County, Ky., in 1845 and is the daughter of Samuel and Emily (Howard) Pogue, natives of Kentucky who settled at Liberty, Clay



WILLIAM LANE AND WIFE.





County, Mo. in 1857. Mrs. Lane taught school in Clay and Jackson counties prior to her marriage.

The children born to William and Frances Lane are as follow: Lester died at the age of 19 years; Dr. Harry Lane, a practicing physician in Kansas City; Mrs. Ozella Pitcher, residing on the Lane farm; Mrs. Elizabeth Cassell, living on the Robinson farm; Lora L., at home with her parents; Lowry R., who is living on part of his father's farm. Ralph Fielding Lane, a son of Dr. Lane, served in the aviation corps of the National army for one year. He was married Oct. 15, 1919 to Miss Bera Bray, of Kansas City. Mrs. Cassell has one daughter, Elizabeth Frances Cassell.

Mr. Lane is a Democrat and Mrs. Lane is a member of the Christian church.

**Roy D. Hornbuckle**, a well known citizen and successful farmer and stockman, who is operating the Hornbuckle farm of 371 acres with his brother, Robert C., in Washington township, is a native of Jackson County. He was born on a farm within the present city limits of Kansas City, near what is now the corner of 58th street and Prospect avenue, Nov. 9, 1875. He is a son of William D. and Minerva (Canine) Hornbuckle and was the eldest of four children born to them, the others being as follows: Robert C., who is operating the Hornbuckle place with Roy D.; Nannie B., resides in Kansas City with her parents; and William R., Kansas City, Mo.

William D. Hornbuckle was born in Callaway County, Mo., May 18, 1842, a son of William R. and Amanda (Davis) Hornbuckle, natives of Virginia and early settlers in Missouri. During the Civil War William D. Hornbuckle was engaged in freighting on the Santa Fe trail. He came to Jackson County with his parents in 1849. Later he bought a farm of 120 acres, which is now a part of Kansas City, Mo., and for 25 years he was actively engaged in farming and stock raising. He is now living retired in Kansas City. He is one of the well known early settlers of Jackson County. He is a member of the time honored Masonic lodge and has always been a Democrat. He holds membership in the Baptist church. He purchased the farm which is now being operated by his sons, Roy D. and Robert C., in 1908.

Roy D. Hornbuckle received his education in the public schools of Kansas City and after graduating from the Westport High School, engaged in farming and stock raising in which he and his brother are meeting with unqualified success.

Sept. 26, 1912, Roy D. Hornbuckle was united in marriage with Miss Myra Colgan, a native of Jackson County, Mo., and a daughter of Roch-

ester Colgan, a well known citizen of this county. Mrs. Hornbuckle was born on a farm just north of where she now resides.

Roy D. Hornbuckle is a Democrat and he and his wife are members of the Baptist church. The Hornbuckle brothers rank high in the community, and are known for their enterprise, progressiveness and integrity.

**The Independence Stove and Foundry Company**, Independence, Mo., was placed in operation originally as a general jobbing foundry by William Crick in 1892, and was located one block east of its present site. Ten years later the concern was incorporated on November, 1902, by William Crick and others. The officers at the time of incorporation were as follow: William Crick, president; Thomas Crick, vice-president; J. W. Luff, secretary and treasurer. These gentlemen are the present directors of the company which has a capital stock of \$12,000. However, the magnitude of the business at the present time and the material carried on hand far exceeds in value the amount of the capital stock of the company. The foundry occupies one block of space with a building 80 x 140 feet, located one block east of the Missouri Pacific depot on the main line of the railroad.

This firm manufactures stoves and furnaces and ships the product of the plant to many points in the West and South. The furnaces manufactured in this plant find a ready and ever increasing market and the manufactured material is distributed through the medium of jobbers. The foundry company owns its own patterns and makes stoves and furnaces for the jobbers as desired under the jobbers own name. The best grade of pig iron is used in the manufacture of the stoves and furnaces, and 125 men are employed, including 40 iron molders. The patterns are kept in a fireproof vault, 70 x 80 feet in dimension, and are made of aluminum. The product of this establishment are manufactured entirely on the place excepting the urns and rings. The welding is done by the electric process, the concern owning and operating its own electric plant.

The Independence Foundry and Stove Company has no equal in Kansas City or the West and it enjoys the same shipping facilities as Kansas City concerns. The products of this foundry are Oak stoves in all sizes, hot blast heaters, Cannon stoves, Box stoves, Ideal Laundry stoves and ranges. Perhaps the finest furnaces on the market today are manufactured here as is evidenced by the demands of eastern jobbers, in Ohio, Pennsylvania and other eastern states.

As manufacturers, the Crick Brothers have taken front rank among the business interests and industries of Independence. Progressive in their tendencies, enterprising to a high degree, they have installed in their



factory every modern improvement and labor saving device known to the trade, which has stood the test. Highly paid skilled workers are employed in this establishment and the maximum amount of output is maintained at all times.

Carl H. Bryant, M. D., was born in Independence, Mo., Jan. 16, 1881. He is a son of Dr. John Bryant of this city and a grandson of Dr. John Bryant, who was a son of George S. Bryant, who came to Independence from Kentucky in 1850 and died here a few months later. A biographical sketch of the Bryant family, tracing the genealogy of the Bryants in America from the year 1700, is given elsewhere in this volume in the sketch of Dr. John Bryant. Dr. Bryant's mother was Harriet Smart, prior to her marriage, and she is a daughter of the late Judge Thomas Austin Smart, of Kansas City, a pioneer who settled there in 1836 and owned a farm whereon much of the business section of Kansas City is built. A sketch of Judge Smart accompanies that of Dr. John Bryant.

Carl H. Bryant was educated in the public and high schools of Independence and graduated from Woodland College. After completing the course at Central High School, Kansas City, he entered Yale University in 1900 and four years later was graduated from that institution with the degree of Ph. B. He then entered the Medical Department of John Hopkins University at Baltimore, Md. and was graduated from this institution with the degree of M. D. in 1908. For a period of eighteen months following graduation he served as interne at the Hartford Hospital, Hartford, Conn. He returned to Independence and practiced his profession in his home city for one and a half years and then located in Kansas City. He practiced in the city until August, 1916 and then became medical director of the Kansas City Life Insurance Company, a position which he capably filled for two years and then resigned to enter the service of his country, then at war with Germany. He received a commission as captain in the medical corps of the army Sept. 16, 1918, following which he was in training camp for two weeks and was then sent to Hoboken, N. J., the port of embarkation of the army. He served in the medical corps in the transport division, office of the surgeon, Hoboken, N. J., until July 31, 1919, when he received his honorable discharge from the service. He then returned home.

Dr. Bryant was married May 23, 1910, to Miss Mary Tanner Shannon, a daughter of Alexander and Isabel Shannon of Brooklyn, N. Y., both of whom are deceased. Three children have been born of this union: Elizabeth, John Smart and Carl H., Jr.

He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

Alexander Ramsey, an old settler and veteran of the Civil War, residing on Rural Route No. 6, Blue township, Independence, Mo., was born in Bedford County, Pa., Feb. 24, 1831. He is a son of John and Mary (Weaverling) Ramsey both of whom were born and reared in Bedford County, Pa., and spent their lives in that county. They were parents of the following children: Mrs. Esther Oler, Mrs. Marie Sparks, Mrs. Eliza Chamberlin, William Wesley, all deceased; Alexander, of this sketch; and Jeremiah, his twin brother, who died in 1915 in Bedford County, Pa., aged 85 years.

In 1854, Alexander Ramsey went to the Pacific coast by way of Nicaragua and there met John P. St. John, afterwards governor of Kansas. He and Mr. St. John formed a friendship which lasted for life, and they became partners in the mining and wood cutting industry. They cut and sold many thousand cords of wood for the mining camps of California. This partnership lasted for three years and St. John and Ramsey had several interesting adventures. In 1855 they made a trip to Honolulu and while there they saw King Kalakaua and Queen Liliokalani, took dinner with them at the Royal palace and they also took daguerreotype photos of their Royal Highnesses. They returned to the States in 1856. In 1857 the partners returned home by way of the Isthmus of Panama, landing at New York City. Mr. Ramsey went to his home in Pennsylvania and Mrs. St. John went on to the home of his family in Illinois. The next time they met was on the battle field at Alexandria, Va., where both were serving with the Union army. Mr. Ramsey had enlisted with Company C, 133rd Pa. Volunteer Infantry and St. John had enlisted with an Illinois regiment. Both reenlisted after their first term of service and served until the close of the war. Mr. Ramsey's two brothers, Jeremiah and Wesley W. Ramsey served with the Union army also. A brother-in-law, Joseph Chamberlain, a Union soldier, was captured by the Confederates and died in Andersonville prison. James Oler, a nephew, was held in Andersonville prison for nine months and two days and then made his escape. John Oler, another nephew, who served as drummer boy, died in the service. John, George and Joseph Badgeley, three brothers-in-law of Mr. Ramsey, were Civil War veterans. George Hymes, another brother-in-law, was a Civil War veteran and moved to Independence after the war and died here.

In March, 1866, Mr. Ramsey came west and located in Independence. He again met Mr. St. John who was engaged in the real estate business with Richard Dawson and with him laid out the St. John and Dawson



addition to the city. For a time Mr. Ramsey operated a dray from the Pacific depot to the city. The old Santa Fe trail had its western terminus at Independence at that period. When John P. St. John became governor of Kansas, he appointed Mr. Ramsey a guard at the Kansas State penitentiary and he served during St. John's two administrations as governor. For ten years he served as foreman of delivery service for Bullene, Moore, Emery and Co., of Kansas City, Mo., resigning this position to take a place as watchman in Machinery Hall of the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. He then returned to Independence.

Alexander Ramsey was married in Fulton County, Pa., in 1853, to Elizabeth Bodgley, a daughter of Jonathan L. and Jemima (Chrisman) Bodgley, who moved to Independence in 1868. Mrs. Ramsey died Aug. 26, 1911, leaving one child, now Mrs. Ella Harlin, Independence.

Mr. Ramsey has a great-grandson, Russell A. Hayden, of Denver, Colo., who served in the World War with Base Hospital No. 29, located at London, England. He enlisted for service at Greeley, Col. and served for one year.

Ella Ramsey was married in Independence, Dec. 27, 1870, to James W. Harlin, who died Feb. 4, 1915. Mr. Harlan was a tinner and sheet metal worker by trade, a brother-in-law of the late A. G. Slack, and was a veteran of the Civil War, having served as a private in Company A, 132nd Regiment of Indiana Volunteer Infantry. To James W. and Ella Harlin were born children as follow: Susan, wife of W. S. Hayden, Greeley, Colo.; Harry H., St. Clair Park, Kansas City, Mo.; James A., Omaha, Neb.; Charles E., Duluth, Minn. Mrs. Harlin has six grandchildren: Russell A., Howard H. Hayden, Howard H., Walter V., Henrietta and Marion Harlin.

**Otto H. Schowengerdt**, successful farmer and dairyman, of Blue township, was born in Franklin County, Mo., Feb. 15, 1879. He is a son of William and Anna (Schlowmann) Schowengerdt.

William Schowengerdt was born in Warren County, Mo., in 1839 and was reared in that county. He moved from his native county to Franklin County and thence to Jackson County in 1884 and settled on a farm in Blue township where he resided engaged in farming and stock raising until 1914 when he removed to a home at 424 North Main street, Independence. He died in September, 1916 and his remains were interred in Woodland cemetery. Mrs. Anna Schowengerdt was born in Warren County, near Hopewell, in 1849 and is living at the home in Independence. The children of the Schowengerdt family are: Elizabeth, deceased; Ernest, a



farmer on the Blue Springs road; Jennie, wife of Louis Iringer, Arley, Mo.; Otto H., subject of this sketch; Oscar, a farmer in Blue township; Nettie, wife of Emil Goettel, Alliance, Ohio.

After receiving his early education in the public schools, Otto H. Schowengerdt studied at Spaldings Commercial College. He has followed farming and dairying since he began his own career. His herd consists of 20 dairy cows and his farm of 77 acres is situated two miles south of the Independence court house. He purchased this tract in 1903 from his father and has placed all of the existing improvements thereon. The nine room residence which is furnace heated was erected in 1905. A good barn for the sheltering of his hogs and cattle is on the place which is equipped with other good buildings among them being a sanitary dairy barn in process of erection. A good spring of water and a large cistern supply ample water for the dairy business. Thirty acres of alfalfa furnished four cuttings during the past year. The milk from the dairy is sold at the farm to the Forrest Dairy Company.

Mr. Schowengerdt was married Feb. 15, 1906 to Miss Laura Allemann who was born on a farm in Gasconade County, Mo., Dec. 28, 1884. She is a daughter of John and Dora (Werle) Allemann of Hermann, Mo. Mr. Allemann is 70 years of age and resides at Hermann. Mrs. Allemann died in 1916. The Allemann children are: Albert, deceased; Margaret, deceased; Rosa, wife of Frederick Hosenjager, Kansas City; Arthur, Independence, Mo.; Mrs. Laura Schowengerdt of this sketch; Rudolph, deceased; Otto, Independence, Mo.; Hulda, wife of Homer House, Independence, Mo.; Freda and Ida, twins, the former of whom is the wife of Theodore Blust, of Hermann, Mo., and the latter is the wife of Henry Eickhoff, St. Louis, Mo.

The children born to Otto H. and Laura Schowengerdt are: Herbert, aged 13 years, and Marvin, ten years of age.

**Virgil E. Phillips**, member of the well known grocery firm of Phillips and Thomson, Bristol Station, Blue township, at the corner of Fifteenth and Hardy avenue, is a native of Jackson County. He was born May 24, 1872 and is a son of James Warren Phillips, a native of Virginia who was born in 1828.

James Warren Phillips accompanied his parents from Virginia to Warren County, Ky. when a boy and he again accompanied them from Kentucky to Lafayette County, Mo. about 1840. He came to Jackson County in 1854. He enlisted in the Confederate army in 1862 and served until the close of the war with Gen. Francis M. Cockrell. He surrendered

with his command in Louisiana. Upon his return to Jackson County he found his home destroyed. Rebuilding, he engaged in farming until his death in 1872, his remains being interred in the old Reese cemetery in Sniabar township. His wife was Sarah Eletha (Graham) Phillips, who was born in Kentucky and was brought to Missouri by her father, Edward Graham, when she was five years old. She died in 1910. The children born to James Warren and Sarah Eletha Phillips are as follow: Alice died when 20 years of age; James Luther, Excelsior Springs, Mo.; Joseph Franklin, Kansas City, Mo.; Julia Lenora, wife of J. P. V. Vandyke, Buckner, Mo.; Charles R., Grain Valley, Mo.; John W., Portland, Ore.; Carrie died at the age of eight years; Virgil E. of this sketch.

Virgil E. Phillips received his early education in the Pink Hill district school. After leaving school he was employed in various grocery stores in Kansas City until the opening of his present establishment in 1915. The firm carries a full line of groceries and meats, the business being in direct charge of Mr. Phillips who learned the meat cutting trade in Kansas City. The Phillips store is neat, well kept, completely stocked and has an excellent trade.

Mr. Phillips was married in 1911 to Edna Thomson, a daughter of Matthew Thomas and Sallie (Rhodes) Thomson, the former of whom died in December, 1918 and the latter now resides at 1715 Elmwood, Kansas City. The children of the Thomson family are: Benjamin, Kansas City; Mrs. Edna Phillips; Lucie, a teacher in the Yeager School and partner in the business; Fred, lives at 20th and Elmwood, Kansas City; Floyd, lives at 18th and Spruce, Kansas City; Oliver, deceased; Grace, at home with her mother.

Mr. Phillips is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

**J. M. Peck**, a well known grocer, located at the corner of Main and Short streets, Independence, Mo., is a native of Kentucky, born Nov. 12, 1848, in Fleming County and he is a son of William and Sarah (Prater) Peck, both born and reared in Kentucky. His mother died in Fleming County, Ky. and his father died at Newport. William Peck served in the Union army for three years during the Civil War, enlisting in Indiana, where he removed in 1859. He lost the sight of one eye while in the service, the misfortune being caused by the premature explosion of a gun cap while he was engaged as a sharpshooter. The children born to William and Sarah Peck are as follow: Mrs. Elizabeth Church, Indianapolis, Ind.; J. M. Peck, of this sketch; Mrs. Mary Noland, deceased.

J. M. Peck came West in 1867 and located at Junction City, Kan. He



was in the employ of the Patterson and Epperson Packing Company, who were in all probability the first packers of beef and pork in Kansas. In 1869 this company erected a packing house in the West Bottoms at Kansas City, and J. M. Peck killed the first beef for this firm and assisted in the cutting and packing. This was the initial start of the great packing industry in Kansas City. The Armour Packing Company located here the following year and rented the Patterson and Epperson building for a year, or until they had a building erected at their present location.

Mr. Peck returned to Indiana in 1872 and was married to Cynthia Lease. Upon his return to Kansas City he entered the employ of the Armour Packing Company and remained with this firm for ten years. After this he was engaged in the mercantile business in Kansas City, Kan. until June, 1915. He then came to Independence and opened his grocery store on Jan. 12, 1916 and has since been engaged in business and has built up a very satisfactory trade.

Mr. and Mrs. Peck have two children: Florence and Margaret. Margaret married W. T. Goodman of Independence and has two children, William Harold and John Marshall. Mr. and Mrs. Peck and daughter, Margaret, reside at 203 South Spring street.

J. M. Peck served as a member of the school board in Kansas City, Kan. before that city was incorporated as the city of Wyandotte. At the time he located at Junction City, Kan., the Union Pacific Railroad, then called the Kansas Pacific Railroad, was built to Hays, Kan. in 1867. He recalls that the rate of fare was ten cents per mile. The locomotive burned wood for fuel and that buffaloes were roaming by the thousand in the vicinity of Hays.

**Michael Tierney.**—A review of the life of Michael Tierney, one of the oldest of the living pioneer citizens of Jackson County, takes one back to the old days of the stage coach era and the times when Jackson County was an unpeopled wilderness. Mr. Tierney is the last survivor of the stage coach drivers of the early days when the stage was the only means of transportation between Independence and other Missouri towns. He was born in County Galway, Ireland in 1831 and came to America with a company of Irish immigrants when a boy. The trip across the ocean in those days required several weeks and the ship landed at New Orleans, whence Michael Tierney made his way by steamboat up the Mississippi and Missouri rivers to Independence. He soon entered the employ of Preston Roberts and was also employed by William D. Lancaster. He made a trip across the plains with a freighting outfit as helper and mule





MICHAEL TIERNEY.



driver with a Farrell outfit in about 1849. During the Civil War and before and after that time he drove the stage coach and carried the mail from Independence to Sedalia for Mr. Roberts who was a government mail contractor. Mr. Tierney was on the road both night and day and many times in danger of his life. Frequently when heavy rains or spring thaws had set in he would have to drive the coach across swollen streams whose waters would overflow the bed and seats of the coach. On one occasion he remembers that a number of passengers enroute to Sedalia were so frightened at the prospect of fording a swollen and angry stream that they jumped out as the lead mules entered the water and were left stranded on the opposite bank of the stream, it being impossible for him to turn and recross the Blue River. They had to walk back to Independence and wait for the departure of the next stage. After the war was over, Mr. Tierney was employed on the farm of Preston Roberts and was thus employed for a number of years. In the meantime he had been preparing for the future and had been investing his savings in a tract of land in Blue township, a part of the Roberts holdings. For several years before Mr. Tierney settled on his farm, he had paid for the place and had it rented to Bartley McDermott. He has owned the Tierney place for over 50 years and it embraces a total of 280 acres, one of the finest farms in the county. The Tierney residence is situated on a hill south of the roadway and overlooking the entire farm, a greater part of which is Blue River bottom land—very rich and fertile.

Michael Tierney was married in 1874 to Honoria Lardner who was born in County Galway, Ireland. She died in 1897, aged 49 years. To this marriage the following children were born: Frank, a farmer in Blue township; William, who is operating the home place, his father having long since retired; Mary and Isabelle, both of whom are at home.

Frank Tierney is a farm owner. He married Mary Conway and has five children, viz: Frank, Edwin, Thomas, John and Robert Tierney.

Mr. Tierney has always been a Democrat. He is a member of the Catholic church as are all of his children. He is undoubtedly the oldest living pioneer in Blue township and is in all probability the oldest in Jackson County. Few men have lived to witness as great and far reaching changes as has this pioneer. Few men have better records for a lifetime of industry and honesty of purpose. It is said of Michael Tierney that his employers of the early days placed entire trust in him and his reputation for honesty, reliability, integrity and trustworthiness in every undertak-



ing with which he was entrusted in a day when men of stanch nerve and strength were required to do things was unsurpassed.

Many times during the days of the Civil War, Michael Tierney was held up by bushwhackers and roving bands who sought to obtain money packages which he carried on the stage. He invariably outwitted them, however, and his favorite hiding place for the money was in the interior of the horse collars. During a big storm while enroute from Sedalia, he became lost and drove across country, across streams and through woods, finally landing at Blue Springs, many miles out of his way. On this occasion there were two girl passengers in the coach and these girls sang during the entire night, thus keeping up the spirits of the passengers and driver.

On another occasion he was held up while on the west side of Pleasant Hill and he was robbed of his purse and personal possessions. A leader of the bushwhackers, Cole Younger, then infesting the neighborhood offered to recover his money for him, but he refused to tell who robbed him because of the certain enmity which the recovery of the money involved.

Mr. Tierney recalls the time when the Jayhawkers from Kansas captured Independence and their looting of a lot of red colored calf skins from John Duke's store. The Kansans used the calf skins for leggings and henceforth were known as the "Redlegs".

He never received bodily harm and whenever there was a fight in the vicinity of his coach, the bushwhackers would request him to vacate the coach, inasmuch as they did not want him harmed. They had no desire to stop the running of the stage, as Mr. Tierney carried them the daily newspapers which kept them informed of events over the country. Even when he carried valuables he would have an escort. The leader of the guerillas, Cole Younger, would never allow his men to molest the mail carried on the stage.

P. F. Gray, paving contractor, 2517 East Tenth street, Kansas City, Mo., was born in Belfast, Ireland, April 28, 1872, and is a son of Robert and Susan (Raddia) Gray, the latter of whom died in Ireland in 1874.

Robert Gray emigrated from his native isle to America in 1874 and settled in Kansas City. Not long after his arrival in the city he engaged in contracting and spent several years in the business. He and Peter Souder had the contract for making the cut on the grade of the Missouri Pacific Railroad just east of the depot. He followed the paving contracting business and the building of sewers in Kansas City until his death in

1905. He was one of the best known of the early Kansas Citizens and was recognized as an honest and dependable workman. He was father of the following children: Robert Gray, now lives in Belfast, Ireland, who for some years was captain of Fire Department No. 19, and was a member of the Kansas City fire department for over 20 years; Susan Gray lives in Belfast, Ireland; and P. F. Gray, subject of this sketch.

P. F. Gray received his schooling at Ballymena, County Antrim, Ireland, and when 21 years of age he began contracting. He has followed contract work since that time, following in the same line as his father before him.

Mr. Gray was married April 28, 1899, to Miss Sadie Harland, of Belfast, Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Gray have three children: Catherine, Susan and Joseph.

Mr. Gray is known in Kansas City and the cities where he has undertaken contracts, as a man of reliability, dependable, honest and able and willing to perform any task for which his contract calls. No contract is too large for him to undertake.

**William H. Young**, carpenter, residing at 1115 West Elm street, Independence, Mo., was born Dec. 19, 1859, on a farm in Blue township. He is a son of D. L. and Melinda (Hackett) Young, natives of Kentucky.

D. L. Young was born in 1833 and his wife was born in 1838. They came to Jackson County and were here married in 1858. Upon the outbreak of the Civil War, D. L. Young enlisted in the Confederate Army and was captured by the Federals and imprisoned at Leavenworth. He was later inducted into the Union service and had the unique distinction of having an honorable discharge from both armies. He died in 1899 and was buried in Woodlawn cemetery. Mrs. Young died in 1907 and her remains were laid away by the side of her husband. The children born to D. L. and Melinda Young are: Lulu, wife of Ed Gilchrist, Kansas City, Mo.; D. L., Jackson County, Mo., and W. H., subject of this review.

W. H. Young was reared in Jackson County and educated in the public schools of Independence. After leaving school he learned the trade of carpenter under his father's tutelage and worked with him for several years. After his marriage he followed farming pursuits for six years and then resumed his trade of carpenter.

Mr. Young was married in 1884 to Miss Laura E. Surface, a daughter of William E. and Maria C. (St. John) Surface, the latter of whom was a relative of ex-governor John P. St. John, of Kansas, and lived to attain

the age of 93 years. William E. enlisted in the Union army in Indiana and served throughout the conflict with an Indiana regiment of volunteers. Mr. and Mrs. Young have two daughters: Esta E., wife of George Sheen, Independence, Mo.; Nina J., resides with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Young are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are an estimable couple who stand high in the community.

**Francis Marion Searcy**, living retired at 932 South Noland street, Independence, Mo. was born in Clay County, Mo., near the town of Liberty, April 27, 1848. He is a son of Ambrose W. and Mary Ann (Moore) Searcy, natives of Kentucky who came from Madison County, Ky. to Missouri in 1846 and located at Liberty, later coming to Jackson County, after the close of the Civil War. Ambrose W. Searcy first settled on a farm in the Blue Valley and then bought a farm two miles east of Independence where he spent his remaining years. He died in 1891 and his wife died in 1916. They were parents of the following children: Reuben Howell, Kansas City; Francis M. of this review; Josephine, wife of Charles W. Searcy, Raytown, Mo.; Mary Alice, wife of James Anderson, Olathe, Kan.; Cassandra, Charline and Ambrose W., Independence, Mo.

Francis Marion Searcy attended the subscriptions schools of his native county and grew up to the life of a tiller of the soil. He accompanied his parents to Jackson County after the Civil War and farmed with his father for several years. He then bought a farm of 71 acres about five miles northeast of Independence, to which he later added 50 acres in 1886. He sold this farm in 1911, having moved to Independence in 1909. Mr. Searcy has been three times married. His first marriage took place Dec. 30, 1869 with Susan Barton of Jackson County who died in 1888. He was married the second time to Cora E. Rogers, Sept. 17, 1890. She died Nov. 15, 1896. He was married the third time to Susan E. Rogers in December, 1909. The present Mrs. Searcy is a daughter of Allen and Margaret Webb, the former of whom was a son of Joseph Webb, a pioneer of Blue township who entered land in the vicinity of Salem church and south of the McCune home. He died in 1861. Allen Webb died at Warrensburg, while a prisoner of war.

Francis Marion Searcy is father of ten children, as follow: Mrs. Mattie L. Rawlins, Colton, Calif.; Benjamin F., Chickasha, Okla.; Effie May Searcy, at home; Hugh Thomas, Bristol street; Mrs. Mary J. Reed, Lacygne, Kan.; Fred Moore Searcy, deceased; Mrs. Myrtle A. Stone, deceased; Roy M. Searcy, Detroit; Dottie E. Searcy, deceased; Frank R. Searcy, at home.



Roy M. Searcy enlisted in the Missouri National Guard in 1914. At the time of the trouble with Mexico he was mustered into the regular army service and sent to the Mexican border and was on duty there at Laredo, Texas, until mustered out. After being mustered out of the service at Fort Riley he reenlisted in the National Guard and served with Battery C until the United States declared war upon Germany, when he was again taken into the regular service and sent to Fort Sill, Okla. and thence overseas on May 23, 1918, with the famous 35th Division. He served with Battery A, 129th Field Artillery and fought in the Argonne Forest, St. Mihiel, the Meuse, the Toul and the Verdun sector. He was on duty at Verdun when the armistice was signed, Nov. 11, 1918. In the latter part of April, 1919, he returned home and is now in the employ of the Cadillac Motor Company, Detroit, Mich. He is a Free Mason.

Frank R. Searcy enlisted in the United States navy May 3, 1917, at Kansas City. He was sent to the Naval Training Station at Newport, R. I. and was then sent to New York for shore duty at the New York navy yard for further transfer to sea but was detailed until honorably discharged May 22, 1919. Mr. Searcy has an important position with the Standard Oil Company at Sugar Creek, where he is a mechanical clerk. He is a member of the Masons and Loyal Order of Knights of Pythias and is one of the splendid patriotic Americans of Independence.

**Bishop Edmund L. Kelley**, residing at Independence, Jackson County, Mo., is a member of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He was born near Vienna, Johnson County, Ill., Nov. 17, 1844, a son of Richard Y. and Sarah Elizabeth (Ballowe) Kelley, the former of whom was born in Tennessee, and the latter in Virginia but removed with her parents to Nashville, Tenn., in childhood and was there reared and received her education.

Richard Y. Kelley was born in 1812 and died in 1861. He was a son of Benjamin Franklin Kelley, who was born in North Carolina. When the subject of this review, Edmund L. Kelley, was but a boy his parents removed to western Iowa, where Richard Y. Kelley and the family followed farming in the early settlement. The children born to Richard Y. and wife were: Benjamin, E. F., John S., deceased; William H., deceased; Mary J.; Edmund L.; George T.; Parley P.; and James M.

William H. Kelley was president of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, serving in this capacity for ten years prior to his death, which occurred at Lamoni, Iowa, June, 1914.

Mary J. Kelley became the wife of John L. Ryerson, Mills County, Iowa, who was a veteran of the Civil War.

George T. Kelley, of Pierce, Neb., served as Circuit Judge in Nebraska for 14 years and is still a resident of that county.

Parley P. Kelley, deceased, was formerly an attorney at Glenwood, Iowa.

James M. Kelley, formerly a banker in Iowa, now resides at 414 River Boulevard, Independence, Mo.

After pursuing his studies in the public schools and the Glenwood, Iowa, high school, Edmund L. Kelley taught school for a time and then attended the Iowa State University in 1863 and 1864. In 1871 and 1872 he was a traveling missionary in the state of Michigan and in 1873 he graduated from the Law Department of the Iowa University. After finishing his law course, he served as superintendent of the public schools of Mills County, Iowa, and at the close of his two years term, he received the written indorsement of the chairmen of both political parties in the county for reelection. He declined and practiced law in Glenwood for six years. In 1881 he was requested by the Reorganized Church of the Latter Day Saints to represent them before the Congressional Committee at Washington, D. C., then investigating the situation in Utah, with a view to the admission of Utah into the Union as a state. He performed this mission with Zenas H. Gurley as associate, Mr. Gurley being one of the members of the quorum of twelve. Mr. Kelley in presenting his plea took the ground that the admission of Utah as a polygamous state was not to be permitted and he showed conclusively by able argument that polygamy as practiced by the Utah Mormons was not a part of the tenets of the Church of Latter Day Saints, and according to the principles of said church never could be. This application for admission with polygamy was refused by Congress.

In 1882, upon his return from Washington, the General Conference of the church held in Independence, Mo., offered Mr. Kelley a bishop's position. He accepted and has held the office since his appointment. In 1891 he was made presiding bishop, succeeding Bishop George A. Blakeslee, deceased. Mr. Kelley served as presiding bishop for 25 years. He has made his home in Independence since 1905 and now resides at 702 South Fuller avenue.

Bishop E. L. Kelley was married Dec. 21, 1876, to Miss Catherine Bishop, a daughter of John and Mary J. (Humiston) Bishop, of Mills County, Iowa. Sometime after the marriage, the Bishop family removed



to Nebraska and established a home for many years, but when the father and mother became aged they changed to Independence, Mo., where both died, Mr. Bishop April 13, 1915, and Mrs. Bishop Dec. 31, 1910. When Mr. Bishop went to Nebraska he homesteaded a tract of land in that state and achieved success as a farmer and stockman. Mr. Bishop was a veteran of the Mexican War and served under General Zachary Taylor. By virtue of a Mexican land patent given him by the government, he became owner of a tract of land in Iowa which he developed. He died at the age of 86 years. His wife attained the age of 83 years. Both are interred in Independence, Mo.

The children born to Bishop E. L. and Catherine B. Kelley are: Winfred B., Edmund L., Jr., Richard C., Laura B., Jeanette V., Joseph Stanley, David E., and Ruth Alix. Winfred B. Kelley is a practicing attorney in Independence, Mo. Edmund L. Kelley, Jr., is a banker at Hardin, Mont. Richard C. Kelley is now in the textile manufacturing business in Philadelphia, Pa. For two years (1905-7) he was principal of the Columbian School of Independence, Mo. He spent two years in the Philippine Islands in the employ of the Bureau of Education. Later he was Director of Manual Arts at Iowa State University. During the war he was a special agent for the government in the vocational rehabilitation of disabled service men.

Laura B. is the wife of Dr. John R. Green, Independence, Mo. He served as a captain in the medical corps, U. S. army, during the war. Jeanette V. is the wife of Paul N. Craig, Lamoni, Iowa. Both Mr. and Mrs. Craig are instructors in music at Graceland College, Lamoni. Joseph Stanley Kelley is a graduate of the Law Department of Missouri State University. He was lieutenant in the aviation corps during the World War. His command was ready to embark overseas when the armistice was signed. He is a traveling salesman for the Abernathy Furniture Company of Kansas City. David E. Kelley also served in the United States army and saw service with the 35th Division in France during the World War, as first sergeant, Company E, 110th Engineers. He fought in the Meuse-Argonne drive and served in all two years. He returned home in May, 1919 and is now a member of the firm of the R. V. Aycock Co., Kansas City, Mo. Ruth Alix is the wife of Homer O. Lichtenwalter, who was formerly a teacher in Kansas University, Lawrence, Kan. During the war he was an expert in the manufacture of high explosives at the large government powder plant at Nitro, W. Va. Their present home is Dover, N. J.



Bishop Kelley is now a traveling bishop for his church and under the direction of the presidency and presiding bishop, he visits all parts of the United States and many in Canada and has visited Great Britain, France and Italy, where his church is doing missionary work or has established organizations.

**Harry B. Vest.**—The late Harry B. Vest of Fort Osage township was a man of industry and worth in the community, whose death was regretted by scores of friends who had known him during his residence in Jackson County. He was born in Sibley, Mo., Dec. 2, 1861 and died Oct. 5, 1916. He was a son of William B. and Amanda N. Vest who were natives of Indiana. The Vest family came to Missouri in the early fifties and settled on a farm near Sibley, Fort Osage township. Mrs. Amanda N. Vest died there in 1871 and Harry B. Vest was reared by his step-mother, Mrs. Carrie Vest. He had one brother, Charles, now living at San Diego, Cal. and sisters, Mary and Amanda, deceased. He had five half brothers: Robert, Roland, George, Samuel and William, and three half sisters, Anna, Cardie and Minnie. George Vest lives in Kansas City. Samuel Vest lives south of Kansas City and Robert resides in Kansas City. A step sister, Mrs. John J. Mann, lives at Excelsior Springs, Mo.

April 6, 1889, Harry B. Vest and Miss Jennie L. Propst were united in marriage. Mrs. Jennie L. Vest was born in Cerro Gordo, Platt County, Ill., March 3, 1869, and came to Jackson County in 1875 with her parents, William and Elizabeth Propst, a sketch of whom is in this volume in connection with that of James Propst. The children born to Harry B. and Jennie L. Vest are: William B., Nora B., George W., John Benjamin, Roy S., Charles Q., Sadie L. William B. Vest was born June 21, 1890, married Lottie Spangler of Kansas City and lives on the Vest home place. Nora B. Vest was born Nov. 24, 1892 and is employed in the office of the Prairie Pipe Line Company, Kansas City, Mo. George W. Vest was born Aug. 26, 1894 and is a student in Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa. He served in the National army, enlisting in the aviation corps in December, 1917. He was in training at Camp Logan, Colo., and at San Antonio, Texas, and Memphis, Tenn. He was honorably discharged at Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa, in April, 1919. John Benjamin Vest was born June 7, 1896, lives in Kansas City, Kan. He married Mabel Emerich. He served in the National army during the World War. He enlisted in February, 1918, was in training at Charleston, S. C., and at Pensacola, Fla., and received his honorable discharge Jan. 13, 1919. Roy S., was born Jan. 13, 1900 and is in the employ of the office of the Pennsylvania Rub-

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HARRY B. VEST.





ber Company, Kansas City. Charles Q. Vest was born April 3, 1902, and is in the garage business at Buckner. Sadie L. Vest was born Aug. 15, 1905 and is a student in the Buckner High School, first year.

When Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. Vest began their wedded life, they settled on a farm, the old Emery place, near Sibley, and resided there for one year. They then moved to the old Propst place south of Buckner and resided there until Mr. Vest's death in 1916. In October, 1918, Mrs. Vest left the farm and moved to a home in Buckner. Mr. Vest died in the Independence Sanitarium, where he had gone for treatment. Mrs. Vest received 133 acres from her father's estate, and she and Mr. Vest accumulated another farm of 160 acres north of Grain Valley. Mrs. Vest has since sold 26 acres of land.

Mr. Vest took a great interest in political matters and was a stanch Democrat, active in behalf of Democratic policies and always ready to assist his friend to political preferment. He was an industrious and successful citizen, kind to his family, a home man, who had many warm and steadfast friends in the community where he spent his entire life.

**Jess Flowers**, councilman from the first ward and deputy coal oil inspector, Independence, Mo., was born on a farm near Holden, Mo., July 5, 1874. He is a son of Dr. B. L. and Mary (Baker) Flowers, both natives of Virginia.

During the Civil War, Dr. B. L. Flowers was enrolled as a member of the home guards of his state. After the close of the war he located in Johnson County, Mo., practiced his profession and followed farming pursuits until his death. Mrs. Flowers died at Madison, Kan. Their children are: Benjamin, resides in Missouri; Charles, Kansas City, Mo., engineer at the plant of the National Biscuit Company; Mrs. Sarah Thomas, deceased; Mrs. Mary Hedrick, Madison, Kan.; Mrs. Frances Scarcliff, deceased; Joseph, a printer, employed on the News, Madison, Kan.; and Jess Flowers of this review.

After attending the public schools at Holden, Mo., Jess Flowers was employed in newspaper work for a number of years as a reporter. His first official position was that of reporter for the house of representatives at Jefferson City, a position which he held under Governor Folk. He kept the minutes of the Legislature during the deadlock which ensued between the supporters of Kerens and Niedrenhaus for the United States senatorship, which was a very warm session. He also served in this position during 1910 and 1911 under Governor Hadley.

Mr. Flowers was then appointed to the post of deputy coal oil in-

spector by Governor Hadley in 1911 and his headquarters have since been located at Independence. He served four years as deputy coal oil inspector and then entered the employ of the Standard Oil Company at Sugar Creek, Mo.

Mr. Flowers was married Nov. 7, 1893 to Emma Leta Storey of Holden, Mo., a daughter of Taylor Storey of that place. Mr. and Mrs. Flowers have a daughter, Dorothy Flowers, a kindergarten teacher at Sour Lake, Texas, a graduate of Independence High School and formerly a student of domestic science, Manhattan College, Kan. and a graduate of Forebel Kindergarten School of Kansas City.

The Flowers' residence is at 604 West Farmer street. Mr. Flowers is a Republican. In 1917 he was elected councilman from the first ward for a term of two years and is now serving his second term, having been reelected in April, 1919. The first ward is strongly Democrat and it is evident that Mr. Flowers is popular with the citizens of his ward. He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Woodmen of the World and the Loyal Order of Moose.

**James P. Sappenfield**, elder of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints, veteran of the Civil War, residing at 1119 South Noland street, Independence, is a native of Indiana. He was born in Harrison County, Indiana, June 7, 1845, and is the son of Henry and Nancy (Harmon) Sappenfield well respected residents of Harrison County. Henry Sappenfield was born in Harrison County, and was a son of Michael and Mary (Sears) Sappenfield, natives of North Carolina, who were among the first of the pioneers in Indiana, settling in Harrison County in 1804. Henry Sappenfield married Nancy Harmon, a native of Floyd County, Ind. and a daughter of pioneer parents. The children of Henry and Nancy Sappenfield were: Sarah A., James P., Mary, Emanuel, Lucinda, Charles, David C.; Henry Sappenfield was engaged in farming and business during his active life.

When 18 years of age, James P. Sappenfield enlisted in Company E, 117th Indiana Infantry and later served with the 12th Indiana Battery. For two years he fought with the Union armies and participated in several great battles, among them being Lookout Mountain, Blue Spring, Tenn., and his last battle was at Nashville, Tenn. He returned to Indiana after the close of the war and followed horticulture as a vocation until he removed to Independence in March, 1911.

Elder Sappenfield was married at Byrneville, Ind., April 15, 1866 to Miss Penma Byrne, a daughter of Charles Leason and Nancy



(Kanoyer)) Byrne, the former a native of Indiana, and the latter of North Carolina. The town of Byrneville was named in honor of Temple C. Byrne, a greatuncle of Mrs. Sappenfield. Three children have been born to this marriage: Charles Edward, Byrneville, Ind.; Nettie O., wife of Edward Martin, Independence; and Byrd Sylvester, Byrneville, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Sappenfield have seven grandchildren. James C. Martin, of Kansas City, a grandson, enlisted in the World War under Lieut. Col. Stayton, at that time a captain in command of Battery C and was a member of Major Stayton's staff as sergeant major while on the Mexican border. He served with his battery for three years, receiving an honorable discharge. He is now an expert accountant in the employ of a Kansas City firm. He married Leathe Fowler and resides at 1828 Cypress street. Mabel Martin, another grandchild, married Howard Jacobs and lives in Independence. Lake H. Martin married Velma Kemper and lives in Independence. Marshall Martin resides in Independence. Gordon Sappenfield resides in this city with his parents. Verne Sappenfield resides in Independence.

Elder Sappenfield's connection with his church began in Jan. 3, 1894 at Byrneville, Ind. and since that time he has done a great amount of work in its behalf. He takes an active part in church work and has done much local work in Independence and Jackson County.

**Thomas Gaines**, city councilman, superintendent of the Jackson County garage on South Crysler street, Independence, Mo., was born on a farm near Lees Summit, Mo., July 20, 1880. He is a son of J. T. and Temperance (Noland) Gaines, the latter a great niece of the late John Oldham of this city who came to Missouri from Kentucky before the Civil War. Mr. and Mrs. Gaines were both born and reared in Clark County, Ky., near Winchester. They came to Jackson County several years ago and settled on a farm near Lees Summit where they lived many years afterward moving to the Logan Swope farm northeast of Independence, and farmed there for 16 years, after which they retired to their home at 1535 North Dodgeon where Mr. Gaines died Dec. 23, 1917, with heart trouble. His widow and seven children still survive him, five of whom reside with their mother at the family residence. Those are Thomas Gaines, the subject of this sketch; Miss Foster Gaines, one of the leading teachers in the county, having taught the Elm Grove school for ten years, where she is at present teaching; Harry Colburn, James Noland, Miss Temperance, an Independence teacher; Mrs. Ernest Duckworth, 2506 Bales avenue, Kansas City, Mo.; and Mrs. Frank Jones, of Independence, Mo.



Thomas Gaines was educated in the public schools and Woodland College and after he attained the age of 21 years he followed farming. For the past 12 years he has been in the employ of Jackson County, receiving the appointment of superintendent of the Jackson County garage in January, 1919.

This department cares for the county trucks and automobiles and cares for the oils and supplies needed by the cars. The county machines are repaired at the garage also.

Mr. Gaines was elected to the office of city councilman from the second ward in the spring of 1915, reelected in 1917 and again elected in 1919 and is now serving his third term. Since his election the city council has installed a new unit in the electric light plant and a second unit has been ordered for installation. He is a progressive city official and is heartily in favor of everything good for the benefit of his home city. Mr. Gaines is chairman of the street and alleys committee and also serves on the light committee. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Levi Gore, retired farmer, living on his valuable farm of 23 acres near Blue Springs, in Sniabar township, is a native of Missouri. He was born in Buchanan County, Aug. 15, 1857 and is a son of Louis Gore who was a son of Henry Gore, a native of West Virginia. Louis Gore was born in 1822 and died in 1905. He came to Jackson County about 1868 and accumulated a large tract of land. For further details of his life the reader is referred to the sketch of William G. Gore in this volume.

Levi Gore accompanied his parents to this county in 1868, and at his father's death he inherited 230 acres from the estate of 1,320 acres which his father had accumulated. The tract where he resides is the old home place of the family and is very valuable land.

April 8, 1877, Mr. Gore was married to Martha E. Pine, who was born April 18, 1860 and departed this life March 29, 1916. She was a daughter of Ballard and Delilah (Neely) Pine, natives of West Virginia and early pioneers in Jackson County where they resided for over 40 years. The children born to Levi and Martha E. Gore are as follows: Mrs. Myrtle Neely, living on the home farm; Lulu, wife of J. W. Myers, on the home place; Ora, wife of Watson Hendrick, on the home place; Mrs. Myrtle Neely has five children, Fernay, Homer, Clyde, Murl and Eva, wife of Charles Cady. Mrs. Lulu Myers has one son, Troy. Mrs. Ora Hendricks has a son, Willie Hendricks.

Mr. Gore is Independent in politics. He is a member of the Christian

church and is prominent in secret society circles. He has filled all of the chairs in the Masonic lodge of Blue Springs, passed through the chairs of the Odd Fellows and has held every post in the Knights of Pythias except that of chancellor commander. He is a member of the Rebekahs and the Odd Fellows Encampment.

**David Hall**, farmer and stockman, owner of 120 acres of good farm land in Sniabar township is a native of Jackson County and is a son of one of the early pioneers of the county. Mr. Hall was born Nov. 26, 1887 and was reared to manhood in Jackson County. He is a son of James D. Hall, large land owner.

Mr. Hall was married to Miss Maudie Gore, a daughter of Frank Gore, who was a son of Green Gore, one of the old settlers on this section of Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have one child, Theda Florine, aged three years.

Mr. Hall is a Democrat and a member of the Baptist church. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias of Blue Springs.

James D. Hall, father of David Hall, was born Aug. 10, 1839 on the place where he still resides. He is the son of Isham and Rachel (Stanley) Hall, natives of North Carolina. The Halls are among the earliest pioneer families of Jackson County, Isham Hall probably having settled in this county sometime in the twenties, coming here from Virginia. Isham Hall was father of the following children: John, deceased; William; Mrs. Betsy Johnson; Jane, deceased; and James D. Hall, of this review.

During the second year of the Civil War, James D. Hall cast his lot with the Confederacy and enlisted in 1862 in Captain Nolin's company under Generals Raines and Price. He fought in the battles of Pea Ridge, Ark., Corinth, Miss. and was in many skirmishes. Returning home after a year's service, he remained here until Order No. 11 went into effect, when he went to Lafayette County. From there he went to Nebraska City, Neb. and lived there for a year and followed his trade of carpenter. After the close of the war he came back to his old home in Jackson County and on Aug. 31, 1866 he was married to Sarah Jane Gore, who was born in Virginia, Nov. 26, 1840, a daughter of Greenville and Frances (Stultz) Gore, who located in Buchanan County, Mo. in 1852 and some years later came to Jackson County.

The children born to James D. and Sarah Jane Hall are as follows: Ollie and Moses, died in infancy; John, farmer, living on part of his father's land; George, a farmer near Selsa; Mrs. Ella Myers, died, aged 34 years, leaving three children; David of this review; and Ida, living on a



part of the old homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have 12 grandchildren: John Hall married Prudencia Allison and has one child, Mrs. Georgia McGuire, who is mother of one child, Geraldine. George Hall married Jennie Foley and had three children, Mae Lawson and Marshall Hall. David Hall has one child, Theda. Mrs. Ida Shropshire has six children, Ethel, John, Bertha, Greenville, Elise and Guy, and four deceased.

Mr. Hall has followed carpenter work and farming during his active life and has been successful. His estate consists of 700 acres in Jackson County. He is a Democrat and was reared in the faith of the Cumberland Presbyterian church.

**Samuel Lee Lowe**, farmer and stockman, owner of 92 acres of valuable land, which was the old home place of his father, Calvin V. Lowe, was born Nov. 4, 1878 in Jackson County on the old Lowe homestead, halfway between Independence and Blue Springs. When seven years of age he moved with his parents to the new home place near Blue Springs. This place was purchased from James Burris and since purchasing the farm from the Lowe estate, S. L. Lowe has remodeled the residence. Samuel L. Lowe is a son of Calvin V., born Dec. 5, 1832, died July 14, 1904, and Mary E. Lowe, born March 5, 1839, died March 12, 1919. They were married March 20, 1856. For further particulars regarding Calvin V. and Mary Elizabeth Lowe, see sketch of John Louis Lowe in this volume.

S. L. Lowe was educated in the Blue Springs public school, the Warrensburg State Normal and pursued a commercial course in Spauldings Commercial College. For six years he and a partner named H. P. Gouldman operated a livery barn in Blue Springs. Then under the name of Lowe he was engaged in the hardware business for three years. In 1912 he engaged in farming and the raising of cattle and hogs. On this place Mr. Lowe has descendants of the original Shorthorn herd founded by his father who was a breeder of fine cattle.

Mr. Lowe has been twice married. His first marriage took place Feb. 28, 1901 with Lynda Walton Gouldman, who was born in King and Queens County, Va., April 1, 1877 and died April 28, 1910, leaving three children: Eldred Gouldman, born Jan. 3, 1902; Clifton Mordaunt, born Jan. 11, 1904; and Henry Ralph, born June 30, 1908. Mr. Lowe was married the second time Aug. 2, 1916 with Miss Susan Osborn, of Higginsville, Mo., born Feb. 8, 1883, a daughter of George and Susan (Rose) Osborn, natives, respectively of Boone County, Mo. and Fleming County, Ky. The Osborns moved from Davis County to Lafayette County, Mo. in 1865. George Osborn died in 1897 and his wife departed this life in 1903. One



child has blessed this second marriage: Mary Elizabeth, born July 31, 1919.

Eldred Gouldman Lowe enlisted in the United States navy July 13, 1918, at Chicago, and was trained at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. He was assigned to Newport and served on the navy patrol ship Marguerite with headquarters at Key West. His ship is now doing duty in the Gulf of Mexico.

Mr. Lowe is a Democrat and is a member of the Baptist Church.

**Silas V. Dillingham**,—Sixty-five years of residence on one farm in Sniabar township is the record of Silas V. Dillingham, large land owner of Jackson County. Mr. Dillingham was born Oct. 31, 1854. The old home of the Dillingham family is still standing within sight of the home which was erected by Mr. Dillingham in 1891. The Dillingham homestead was erected by the elder Dillingham in the early forties.

Veachel Dillingham, father of the subject of this review, was born in Virginia in 1818 and died in January, 1864. He married Nancy Jane Gibson, a native of Kentucky, who died in 1881. Veachel and Nancy Jane Dillingham were parents of seven children: Elizabeth, widow of Larken Johnson, Blue Springs, Mo.; Mrs. M. E. Walsh, lives in Texas; Mrs. Jennie Hamilton, deceased; Mrs. America Mitchell, deceased; Mrs. Sallie Harra lives east of Buckner, Mo.; John, deceased; Silas V., of this review.

After the father's death, Silas V. and his brother were the support of their mother and five sisters. Naturally he began doing the work of a farmer while yet in his youth. He continued to assist in the support of his widowed mother until he was 25 years old. Two years later, his remaining sister married and moved away from the home place. For ten years following his mother's death he lived a bachelor's life. In 1889 the estate was divided and Mr. Dillingham purchased the interests of the other heirs, accumulating 240 acres. He has built up a splendid farm and has added to his first as the years passed. He first bought 22 acres from Larken Johnson. He then bought 40 acres from Mrs. Mack. His next purchase was a tract of 98 acres from a brother-in-law. In the spring of 1919 he purchased 69 acres and now owns a large total of 470 acres.

Mr. Dillingham was married in 1889 to Miss Julia Daniels, born in Jackson County, a daughter of Henry and Mattie (McGill) Daniels. She died in 1902. Four children were born to this marriage: Mary and Anna Jane, at home with their father and two children died in infancy. Mr. Dillingham is a Democrat.

It is worthy of note that Veachel Dillingham served in the Confederate army during the Civil War under General Price and took part in many battles. While in Texas he became ill of measles and died. During the day's march he had become soaking wet, becoming ill in the evening, he was left in the care of an old couple by a comrade, Perry Gibson, and was never again heard from. It is presumed that he died in the Texas home and that his body was buried by the old couple who cared for him.

**George Henry Hifner**, one of the pioneer citizens of Jackson County, now living retired on a farm near Atherton, was born in Jessamine County, Ky., Feb. 11, 1833. He is a son of William and Margaret (Funk) Hifner, natives of Kentucky.

William Hifner was a son of Peter Hifner who reared a family of six children. Margaret (Funk) Hifner was a daughter of Peter Funk, who was father of 14 children, six sons and three daughters of whom were reared to maturity. William Hifner died in Jessamine County in 1836. His wife died at the age of 86 years. George Henry Hifner migrated to Missouri when 24 years of age. When 17 years old he had learned the trade of wagon maker which he followed for some years and carried on a shop at Sulphur Wells, Ky. When he came to Missouri he located near Liberty, Clay County, and followed farming until the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861. He enlisted in Clay County under Capt. William Price, in Colonel Thornton's regiment, General Price's Division and went with his command to Lexington, thence to Springfield, and to Lewis and took part in the battle of Elkhorn Tavern, Ark. From there he went to White River and the army crossed to Tennessee, but Mr. Hifner, then orderly sergeant, was sick and could not accompany his command. He was sent to Little Rock, Ark. and returned on foot in 1862 with two other men, William Jenkins and John Creek, for companions. He was arrested upon his arrival home and imprisoned in the Federal prison at St. Louis from August until Christmas of that year. Dec. 29, 1863 he was released and engaged in the hemp and produce business at Missouri City which he followed until 1870. In 1869 he traded for his present home farm near Atherton and moved on to it in March. This farm consisted of 187 acres and Mr. Hifner acquired a large estate of 871 acres. In 1885 he decided that it was the better policy to make a division of his land among his five children instead of having them wait until his death. He gave 102 acres to his daughter Maggie; 127 acres to his daughter Ella; 160 acres to his son James; and gave to William 80 acres; and gave 80 acres to John. He kept the remainder of his land so as to have property for himself and the





GEORGE HENRY HIFNER AND WIFE.





rest of his family. During his long, active career, Mr. Hifner was an extensive grain raiser and cattle and hog producer and one of the most successful farmers in Jackson County.

In 1858, at the old Liberty fair, he was awarded a first prize for the finest corn crop raised on an acre of ground, producing 133.40 bushels to the acre, the corn averaging 134 bushels and 37 pounds to the measured bushel and the best in quality, winning all the premiums. The association agreed to pay the corn prize in money or silver ware. Mr. and Mrs. Hifner decided to accept silver ware and the State authorities had a set of silver spoons made at St. Louis, marked with the family initial. This silver ware is still in the family.

Mr. Hifner was married Feb. 15, 1855 to Eliza J. Horine of Jessamine County, Ky., a daughter of David Horine of Kentucky. The children born to this marriage are as follow: John C. B., Atherton, Mo.; Elizabeth, at home; Ella, wife of Ed Gallagher, Kansas City, Mo.; Margaret, wife of James D. Beets, of Independence; Prof. W. D., Independence, Mo.; James D., a farmer living near Lees Summit; Boswell, at home. The mother of these children died in April, 1905.

The Hifner residence was erected in 1869. Mr. Hifner recently sold his home place where he now resides but will continue to make his home on the farm. He was one of the leading members of the Greenback party in Jackson County in the seventies and was a candidate for various offices, at one time having been a candidate for congressman from the Fifth District. He has always been independent in political matters. He became a member of the Christian church when 16 years of age, joining the church at Old Jessamine, Ky. He assisted in the building of the Liberty Christian church and also helped to erect a church at Missouri City, later helping materially to build the church on Blue Bottoms, near Atherton. He also contributed to the building of the Pleasant Union church. This church has since been sold and the proceeds turned over to the Independence Christian church. Mr. Hifner now holds membership in the Independence Christian church to which he contributed \$1,000 in the fall of 1919. He has filled the offices of elder and superintendent of the Sunday school in the various churches with which he has been affiliated and is now an elder in the Independence Christian church. He has heard many pioneer preachers discourse from the pulpit in his time, such as Rev. Franklin, George Rogers, James A. Garfield, Scott, Ricketts, Raccoon Smith and Alexander Campbell.

Mr. and Mrs. Hifner have grandchildren as follow: Boyd, Frank,

Henry, Thomas, Chub, Ila, Mona, Flora, Mabel and Ella Beets; Pauline, Kate, Bertha, William, Lora, Mary and Nellie Gallagher; Russell, Lloyd, Lola, Blanche, Garland Hifner; Gilbert, now in U. S. navy, Stanley, Henry and Helen Hifner. They have nine great grandchildren.

Although past 87 years of age, this patriarch is active both mentally and physically and takes a keen interest in life and present day events. He is well informed.

Whitsett P. Fishback, former merchant of Oak Grove, Mo. was born on a pioneer farm in Lafayette County, Mo., Feb. 13, 1849. He is the son of Fant L. and Pamela (Ewing) Fishback, natives of Virginia and Tennessee, respectively, who came to Missouri in the early forties. Pamela Ewing accompanied her father, William Young Ewing, from Giles County, Tenn. during the early thirties. Fant L. Fishback developed a farm about three and a half miles south of Napoleon, Lafayette County and there reared his family.

When W. P. Fishback was 24 years of age, like many other young men of his age in that adventurous era, he became imbued with the desire to see the great unknown West. Accordingly he traveled to the mining country and went to the Washoe Valley in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and was employed in cutting wood which was rolled down the steep mountain sides for shipment to the smelters of the famous mining town of Virginia City, which was then in the heyday of its prosperity and fame. The wood was hauled to Virginia City via a small narrow gauge railroad. Mr. Fishback spent two years in the west and for a time was employed on a valley ranch. He returned to Missouri in 1875 and spent two years in Vernon County before settling down in his home county. In 1883 he engaged in the mercantile business in Oak Grove in partnership with W. H. Poindexter. Later Mr. Fishback became sole proprietor and carried on the business alone until he took in his brother, Robert Fishback, as a partner. The firm was continued under the name of Fishback Brothers until the death of Robert Fishback, the interest of the deceased brother being retained for the benefit of his widow and son, Roy. Mr. Fishback continued the business until Roy Fishback, his nephew, became old enough to take his place in the store and it was operated by the uncle and nephew until Jan. 1, 1919, when it was sold to Gray Brothers of Oak Grove. Mr. Fishback and his nephew, Roy, are owners of 150 acres of land five miles south of Oak Grove and at the present time, Roy Fishback is traveling in Colorado in the interest of a dry goods firm.

There were four children born to Fant L. and Pamela Fishback as



follows: Sarah died in 1862; James E., died in 1918; George, died in 1918; Whitsett P., of this review, and Robert E. Fishback. The latter was born in 1851 and died in 1905. He married Lucy Grubb, a daughter of G. W. Grubb and she now resides at Oak Grove. They were the parents of three children, Roy, Mrs. Carrie Gray and Whitsett E.

Mr. Fishback is a Democrat and a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church.

**John W. Hudson**, Oak Grove, Mo., is one of the old timers of Jackson County, who was born in a log cabin and reared in this county. Nearly his entire life has been spent in the vicinity of Oak Grove. He was born May 23, 1848 and is the son of John Hill and Mary Page (Wilson) Hudson who were natives of Virginia and came to Jackson County in 1832.

John Hill Hudson first settled near Blue Springs and later located about two and a half miles west of Oak Grove where he entered a considerable acreage of land which cost him \$1.25 an acre, and thereby hangs a tale. Mr. Hudson, senior, was gifted with wisdom and had a desire to accumulate land. He accordingly built his cabin so that it would lap over the township lines, and thus enable him to prove up on three or four parcels of land as he desired. He built a two room log cabin and was thus enabled to change his residence from one congressional township to the other as it was necessary. He slept and ate his meals in one side of the house until he had proved up on an "80" and then changed over to the other side and proved up on another "80". This led eventually to complications and the township line at this point became lost, officially some years later. It was necessary to find the intersecting line. The county court ordered a corps of surveyors, William Z. Hickman, Martin O. Jones and Tom Lee, to locate the line, and to establish the corner. The surveyors made quite a hunt for the missing corner and at length one of the party bethought himself of an idea. Perhaps the intersection was located on the site of the Hudson home. Young John W. Hudson was thereupon sent upon the roof with a plumb line and ordered to move around on the roof until the lead pointed at the proper place. In this manner the corner was officially established and the records were made complete. John Hill Hudson accumulated over 600 acres of land during his lifetime and was one of the best known and substantial of the pioneers of Sniabar township. He died in 1848 and his wife Feb. 18, 1888. There were six children in the Hudson family as follows: Thomas W., deceased; David Hill, deceased; James R., died in Oak Grove; Mrs. Albinda W. Chum, deceased; Sarah C., wife of D. B. Shores, Argonia, Kan.; John W., of this review;

James R. Hudson crossed the plains to California in 1852 by the ox wagon route. Thomas W. also went to California in 1852.

John W. Hudson cared for his mother during her last years and in 1871 he was married and built his first home. During the Civil War the family moved to Carroll County and lived with David H. Hudson. After his marriage, Mr. Hudson settled on his home place of 90 acres and improved it. He accumulated a total of 137 acres which he sold in 1904 and then located in Oak Grove. He resided on a farm adjoining Grain Valley, Mo. for six years and for the next five years he lived in Kansas City. Sept. 10, 1918, he located in Oak Grove.

Mr. Hudson was married in 1871 to Mary Etta Austin who was accidentally killed in a team runaway during the winter of 1902, leaving six children: Verta Ann, wife of Arthur J. Alford, Oak Grove, Mo.; William Thomas, a grocer of Kansas City, Mo.; Minnie Hudson, deceased; Edward Lee, a farmer of Vernon County, Mo.; Mary Alice Gregg, Kansas City; Lena Frances Mabry, Grain Valley, Mo.; Mr. Hudson's second marriage occurred in 1904 with Cora A. Mason, who died Jan. 16, 1909 at the age of 41 years.

Mr. Hudson has always been a Democrat and is an excellent citizen.

**Joseph L. Carr**, farmer of Blue township, is one of the old timers of Jackson County. He was born in Baltimore County, Md., March 20, 1849, and is a son of James and Annie (Lesoured) Carr, who came to Missouri in 1867 and settled in Jackson County on the very farm where Mr. Carr is living and where he has resided for two years more than a half century. James and Annie Carr were parents of a family of 11 children only four of whom are now living, viz: Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Lochard, living at Independence; Rachel Anne and Laura Matilda, living on the home place and Joseph L., the subject of this review.

Joseph L. Carr received such education as the schools of his day afforded and during his entire life has been a great reader and student. They say that reading constantly keeps a man young and if such is the case, Mr. Carr has profited by his constant reading of literature and the daily newspapers as he is active, well informed and clear eyed. He lives comfortably upon his small farm of 16 acres, but he and his son are farming over 80 acres in all.

Mr. Carr was married on Oct. 22, 1874 to Martha E. Land, who was born in Jackson County in 1854 and is a daughter of the late Joshua Land, a well known pioneer of this county. Five children blessed this union, viz.: Nora B., living at the home of attorney Dryden; Josie A., wife of



Howard Johnson, north of Grain Valley; Mrs. Rachel M. Hudnall, north of Blue Springs; Britton L., resides in Oklahoma; John W., at home with his father, is the father of one child, Cora V. Carr. Mr. Carr has two other grandchildren, Mary Ellen Johnson and Robert Hudnall.

Mr. Carr is a staunch Democrat of the old school and is loyal to Wilsonian principles.

**Roy Montgomery**, farmer and stockman, owner of 175 acres of splendid farm land in Sniabar township, is a member of one of the old and prominent pioneer families of Jackson County. Mr. Montgomery was born Nov. 27, 1873 and is a son of Isaac N. Montgomery, details of whose life are given with the biography of E. E. Montgomery of Blue Springs, who is a brother of Roy Montgomery. Mr. Montgomery attended the Round Grove School and was reared to the life of a farmer. He has resided on his present place since 1894.

Nov. 28, 1894, Mr. Montgomery was married to Lue Wampler, who was born Nov. 1, 1875, in Illinois and is a daughter of Jacob and Angeline (Chiddix) Wampler, the former born in Knox County, Ind. and the latter a native of West Virginia. Jacob Wampler and Angelina Chiddix were married in Illinois and came to Jackson County, Mo., in August, 1878. They settled on the place now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery. Jacob Wampler was born May 18, 1839 and died June 27, 1884. His wife was born Jan. 13, 1854 and now resides in Independence. She was married to James Mack in 1886 and is mother of two children by her first marriage: Mrs. Roy Montgomery of this review; and Mary, wife of Charles B. Mabrey, near Mecklin, Mo. By her second marriage with Mr. Mack she is mother of two children: Auda A. died in 1907 and James born Aug. 5, 1889, now lives in Independence.

Three children have been born to Roy and Lue Montgomery, as follow: Marvel Angeline, born Aug. 17, 1896; Sue Ione, born May 23, 1898; and Isaac Dow, born Oct. 16, 1902. Both Marvel Angeline and Sue Ione Montgomery were educated in the Oak Grove and Slater High Schools and have studied at Howard Payne College, Fayette, Mo. and are members of the Eastern Star lodge. Isaac Dow Montgomery is a student in Grain Valley High School.

Mr. Montgomery is a director of the Citizens State Bank of Blue Springs and is prominent in Jackson County. He is a Democrat and is affiliated with the Grain Valley Masonic lodge and has attained the Scottish Rite degree of Masonry in Kansas City. Mr. Montgomery and wife, two daughters and son are all members of the M. E. Church, South.



**Eugene H. Chrisman**, of Sniabar township and owner of a well improved farm of 87 acres on the Spring Branch road east of Independence, is a native of Jackson County. He was born Jan. 11, 1870, on the Chrisman home place, now the Fisher place. His parents were Saunders and Elizabeth (Jones) Chrisman, the former of whom was born in Virginia Dec. 12, 1825, and came to Jackson County with his parents when six years of age. Elizabeth (Jones) Chrisman was a sister of the late Judge Jones of this county. She was born Jan. 9, 1835 and died June 28, 1896. Saunders Chrisman died May 18, 1906. He was a Confederate soldier in the Civil War. They were parents of the following children: Charley, died in infancy; Albert, lives north of Adams Station; Orville, Hickman's Mill; Eugene H., of this review; Jeremiah V., a mail carrier of Independence, Mo.

Eugene H. Chrisman attended the district schools and has always followed farming. When 16 years old he began working out by the day and by the month. For five years he was engaged in the restaurant business in Independence. He purchased his present farm in 1909 at a cost of \$60 an acre. Mr. Chrisman has improved his place and it is easily worth \$300 an acre. He erected a neat modern bungalow in 1915 to replace his first residence which was burned in 1915.

Mr. Chrisman was married in 1894 to Nannie Fields, and to this marriage children have been born as follows: Gladys Josephine aged 23 years, married Luther Vandyke, lives six miles east of Lees Summit and has three children, De Chrisman and James Philip, twins, and Vera Eugene.

W. W. Fields, father of Mrs. Nannie Chrisman, was born Sept. 11, 1844, on a farm one and a half miles east of his present place on the Lexington road. He is a son of William and Amanda (Chiles) Fields who were born, reared and married in Morrill County, Ky. They came to Jackson County in 1836. In 1856, William Fields, the elder, sold his first farm and purchased the land where Sater Necessary now lives. He was born in 1806 and died in 1862. His wife, Amanda, was born in 1812, and died in 1868.

William W. Fields enlisted in the Confederate army in 1862, in Company K, Hays regiment, Joe Shelby's brigade, and served for three years, surrendering at Shreveport, La., June 14, 1865. He was with Shelby's command to the end and participated in all of the battles in which Shelby commanded. Saunders Chrisman, father of Eugene Chrisman of this review, was a member of the same company. Mr. Fields was married in

1871 to Josie Adams, who was born in Nelson County, Ky., in 1854, a daughter of Leck Adams. Seven children were born to this marriage: Nannie, wife of Eugene H. Chrisman; Mrs. Myrtle Fisher, living on a nearby farm; Fred, a carpenter, Independence; William, living on the Blue Springs road; Mrs. Perna Searcey, living near Bristow; Tina Belle, lives in Kansas City; and Ernest, at home.

For a number of years Mr. Fields worked at the carpenter trade and accumulated a total of 224 acres. He now has but 72 acres, upon which he has resided since 1893. Mr. Fields has been a Mason for 40 years.

Mr. Chrisman is a Democrat. He and Mrs. Chrisman are members of the Methodist Church South.

**John Dudgeon**, late resident of Fort Osage township, was one of the best known men in the northern part of Jackson County. He was born in Taylor County, Ky., May 2, 1868, and died at his home in Fort Osage township, Oct. 7, 1918. He was a son of W. Dandridge and Susan (Overstreet) Dudgeon, natives of Casey County, Ky. The Dudgeon family came from Kentucky to Ray County, Mo., in 1880, and John Dudgeon attained young manhood in Ray County. He was married on March 26, 1890, to Miss Fannie Endsley, who was born Oct. 7, 1871, in Ray County. She was a daughter of Ethbert M. and Eliza (Vance) Endsley, both of whom were born and reared in Ray County. Ethbert M. Endsley was born June 18, 1834, and died Oct. 31, 1908. He was a son of John Endsley, a native of North Carolina, who was one of the first pioneers of western Missouri, settling in Ray County in 1824. Ethbert Endsley crossed the plains to California in the fifties, spent some time in the gold mines, and returned home in the winter of 1857. Ethbert M. Endsley married Eliza Vance on Dec. 27, 1857. To this union nine children were born: Amidore Endsley, of Orrick, Mo.; Alice Helfor, of Topeka, Kan.; Birty Endsley, of Orrick; Johnnie Endsley, of Orrick; Everett Endsley, of Orrick; Fannie Dudgeon, of Sibley; Eliza Thurman, of Orrick; two died in infancy. After the death of his first wife, he was married to Marie L. Owens, Sept. 15, 1876, and to this union five children were born: Arthur Endsley, of Orrick; Walter Endsley, of Orrick; Callie Coons, of Orrick; two died in infancy. Mr. Endsley became prominent in Ray County, and was a member of the Free Masons.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Dudgeon resided on their farm in Ray County until 1914. In that year they sold their Ray County farm and came to Jackson County, where they purchased 128 acres in Fort Osage township. Mr. Dudgeon did considerable improving on his farm



during the comparatively short period in which he resided in Jackson County, and the Dudgeon farm is one of the well improved and valuable farms in the county. Two children were born to John and Fannie Dudgeon, as follows: John Birtie, born Sept. 5, 1891, and an infant son born and died April 11, 1897. John Birtie is managing the home farm, was married on July 9, 1912, to Ellen Leake, and has two children, Frances Lucille, born April 17, 1913, and Fannie Leota, born Dec. 7, 1914.

Mr. Dudgeon was a Democrat. He was a member of the Christian church, and was a good citizen, enterprising and honest. He made many friends during his residence in Jackson County, and his family are well respected in the community.

**John Hicks George.**—Over 60 years of happy wedded life is the record of John Hicks and Lovica George of the Oak Grove neighborhood. Few couples can boast of so long a wedded life and still be in the best of health and strength, as are Mr. George and his estimable wife. This is not all, however, that Mr. George has to his credit—he is one of the oldest of the native born pioneer citizens in Jackson County, being probably the third oldest pioneer settler in the county. He and Mrs. George have accumulated one of the finest 200 acre farms in the county, their home being located in a beautiful valley, three miles south of Oak Grove. This has been their home since March, 1884, and during that time they have built up a fine country estate.

John Hicks George was born March 24, 1838, on a farm one and a half miles northwest of his present place. He is a son of David and Nancy E. (Bass) George, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter a native of Tennessee. David George was a son of William George who was born in Wales, immigrated to America, first settled in Virginia and then made his way to Kentucky in the pioneer era of that state. Nancy E. (Bass) George was a daughter of Nathan Bass, a native of Virginia, who first moved to Tennessee and then to Kentucky.

David George was born in July 8, 1798 and died in February, 1863. His wife, Nancy, was born June 10, 1808 and died April 5, 1888. They were married Aug. 16, 1827. The following children were born to them: Mrs. Mary Ann Bowman, deceased; Mrs. Martha E. Owings, deceased, aged 90 years; Melissa, died in infancy; Nathan Bass was a Confederate veteran, died May 22, 1899; Hiram James, Confederate veteran, died Oct. 22, 1911; Mrs. Sarah Jane Johnson, deceased; John Hicks, of this review; Ason, died in infancy; Mrs. Frances F., wife of H. V. P. Kabrick, a sketch of whom appears in this volume; Gabriel William fought with the Con-





JOHN HICKS GEORGE AND WIFE.



federate forces and was killed in battle near Independence, Feb. 22, 1862; one son died in infancy; Mrs. Amanda I. (Tyre) deceased; a son died in infancy and Mrs. Lucinda G. Honaker, deceased.

David C. George came to Jackson County in 1836 and entered land in the southeastern part of Sniabar township. He entered land from the government, became prosperous, owned several hundred acres of land and was able to leave each of his children a farm. He died during the Civil War. In the fall of 1862 he had made a trip South and was returning to his home, in February, 1863, and he met death on the Osage River, his death being probably at the hands of Union men.

John Hicks George was peacefully tilling his farm at the outbreak of the Civil War. He had up to the spring of 1862 taken no part in the war but circumstances were soon to arise which would compel him to take part in the struggle. One day in the spring of 1862, when he was peacefully engaged in working in the field near his home, a band of Union soldiers from Warrensburg, who were searching the neighborhood for Quantrell and his band, seized him and in the effort to compel him to tell what he knew regarding Quantrell's whereabouts, put a rope around his neck, threw it over a limb of a nearby tree and three times hauled him up in the air. He denied all knowledge of Quantrell's hiding place each time they let him down and at last the men reluctantly spared his life and let him go. He then decided that it was unsafe for him to remain around the neighborhood, inasmuch as he received orders from the Federal commander to go to Lexington and take the oath of allegiance. He at once hunted up Quantrell and joined his band and remained with this outfit during the remainder of 1862 and a part of the following year. He then enlisted as a private in Gen. J. O. Shelby's brigade and served under Shelby and Price until he was captured in 1864 at Fort Scott, Kan. and placed in the Federal prison at Rock Island, Ill. From there he was sent to Richmond to be exchanged and was in the Confederate service in Mississippi when the war ended and peace was declared. He rejoined his old brigade at Shreveport and accompanied them home to Jackson County.

During the war, after her husband had left home, Mrs. George went to a place near Wellington, Mo. Later locating with her sister on her father's farm in Lafayette County. She and her sister did the farm work, plowed with oxen, and made their own living while the men were absent. When Mr. George returned from the South in 1865 she had a crop of corn growing. She had 16 acres planted and had worked the crop twice with oxen. She even rode the oxen to mill.



One of the hardest fights which John Hicks George took part in during the war was at a spot between Greenwood and Pleasant Hill. His company numbered but 64 men. They were attacked by a band of 200 Federals who entirely surrounded him and his comrades so that they had to fight their way out, killing 92 of the enemy, with a loss of seven killed. Ezra Moore, a close friend was killed in this fight. Other battles in which he fought were: Cane Hill, Ark.; Prairie Grove, Mo.; Booneville, Mo.; Prairie Du Han and Prairie Du Rhone. The fighting was continuous from Pilot Knob to Jefferson City during the raid through Missouri and thence to Lexington from which point they fought their way to Westport where the retreat of Price's army began toward the South.

Oct. 27, 1859, Mr. George was married to Lovica A. White and the following children were born to this union: Joseph N., James Thomas, Dr. John Henry George, Callie Minnie, Samuel William, Gilbert Wilson, Bertha Anne, Forrest Kabrick, David Lee, Arthur Webb, Mary Elizabeth, Melvie Clara. Joseph N. George was born March 1, 1861, married Ella Patton and has four children, Jessie, Minnie, Floyd and Fredah, lives in Kansas City. James Thomas George was born Nov. 3, 1862 and died June 7, 1913, leaving one daughter, Mrs. Grace Robinson. Dr. John Henry George is a practicing physician in Kansas City, was born March 15, 1867, married Belle Harrison of Warrensburg and has three children, Elsa, Hollis and Quinton. Hollis George served with the A. E. F. in France and is a veteran of the World War. Dr. George served with the medical corps at Fort Riley. Calvin Minne George was born Nov. 8, 1868, married Alfred F. Middleton and resides in Lafayette County. She has six children: Tredgar, Ruby, Thelman, Roy, Pansy and Horace. Tredgar Middleton served with the National army during the World War. Samuel William George was born August 31, 1870 and died when a year old. Gilbert Wilson George resides on an adjoining farm. He was born July 24, 1872, married Lydia Newton and has children as follow: Luther, Rena, Henry, Gladys, Forrest, Elbert, Lavica, John David and Lula. Luther T. George served in the National army during the World War. Bertha Anna George was born March 3, 1874 and died in childhood. Forrest Kabrick George was born Jan. 29, 1876 and was killed in a runaway July 30, 1894. David Lee George was born Oct. 10, 1877 and died in infancy. Arthur Webb George was born July 9, 1879 and is a traffic policeman in Kansas City. He married Claudine Grubb and has one child, Earl. Melvie Clare George was born July 11, 1884 and is wife of Jacob Carroll of Lafayette County.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hicks George have two great grandchildren, Jessie Lyons and Leroy George.

Mrs. Lavica A. (White) George was born June 18, 1841 on a farm one mile north of her present home and is a daughter of John and Anna (Burns) White, natives of Tennessee, who came to Jackson County in 1840 and later moved to Lafayette County. She and her husband were childhood playmates and sweethearts.

Mr. George is a Democrat of the old and stanch kind. He and Mrs. George are members of the old school Baptist church. Mr. George has filled various local offices such as member of the school board and road overseer and has always taken an active and influential part in local civic affairs. Few couples have as much to their credit as Mr. and Mrs. George. Although advanced in years far beyond the span allotted to them in Holy Scriptures they are sound in body and mind and take a keen interest in every day affairs. They have the unique distinction of being the oldest native born married couple in all Jackson County.

Dr. George W. Webb, successful practicing dentist, Oak Grove, Mo., is a native son of Jackson County and a member of one of the oldest and most prominent pioneer families of the county. He was born April 22, 1870, on a farm three and a half miles southwest of Oak Grove and is a son of the late John P. and Susan (Philpot) Webb, a sketch of whom appears in this volume.

George W. Webb was educated in the public schools of Oak Grove, Mo., after which he pursued a course in the business college at Sedalia, Mo. He then entered the Western Dental College of Kansas City, Mo. and was graduated from this institution in April, 1902. He immediately began practice of his profession in his home city of Oak Grove and has met with gratifying success. Dr. Webb makes his home on a valuable tract of land consisting of 17½ acres just on the southern edge of Oak Grove.

Dr. Webb was married in 1899, to Miss May Youree, who died in October, 1917, leaving six children: Russell, Cloherene, Pauline, Clay, Owen and John Mann, all of whom are at home and receiving the advantages of a good education.

Dr. Webb is a Democrat and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He is a progressive, well read, and skilled practitioner who keeps abreast of the times and the latest developments in the science of dentistry.



Guy H. Fisher, farmer, Sniabar township, owner of 70 acres of rich bottom land, on the Spring Branch road, is a member of one of the oldest pioneer families of Jackson County. He was born in 1875, just across the creek, in Blue township, and is a son of William and Sarah (Gibson) Fisher, old time residents of Jackson County, an extended sketch of whom appears in this volume.

Mr. Fisher attended the district school and the Blue Springs public school, and since the days of his boyhood he has followed farming. He purchased his fine farm in 1907, and has placed all of the improvements, including residence, barns, outbuildings and fencing, on the place. The residence is reached by a well kept driveway leading from the rock road, and the Fisher farm presents a very attractive appearance.

Mr. Fisher was married Dec. 28, 1898, to Miss Myrtle Fields, who was born March 24, 1875, a daughter of William W. and Josephine (Adams) Fields. William W. Fields was a Confederate veteran, and an old resident of Jackson County. A sketch of him appears in this volume in connection with that of Eugene H. Chrisman. Josephine (Adams) Fields was a member of one of the most prominent and well-to-do families of Nelson County, Ky. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have one child, a daughter, Fields Josephine Fisher, born Dec. 19, 1900, and educated in the Independence High School.

Mr. Fisher is a Democrat. Mrs. Fisher and Fields are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Neal Chiles, owner of a splendid farm of 160 acres south and east of Buckner, in Fort Osage township, is a native of Jackson County. He was born Aug. 5, 1868, on the Chiles homestead, on the old Santa Fe road, and is the son of Samuel H. Chiles and Martha Hughes Chiles, of Buckner, a sketch of whom appears in this volume.

Mr. Chiles attended school at Sibley, Mo., and began making his own way when 20 years of age. In 1888 he went to Kansas City, and served as deputy county marshal under Marshal McGowan for three and a half years. In 1894 he rented land of William Anderson, in the Levasy neighborhood, and tilled his rented land for two years. In 1896, his father having been elected to the office of county marshal, he took charge of the Chiles home place for two years. In 1897 Mr. Chiles purchased a farm of 220 acres in the Sibley bottoms, upon which he resided for four years. In 1901 he purchased his present farm, and has done considerable improving on the place. He has remodeled the residence, making it modern and is gradually creating a beautiful farmstead.



Mr. Chiles was married on Feb. 5, 1896, to Miss Christine Hamilton, who was born Dec. 30, 1871, in Jackson County, near Buckner, and was educated at Hardin College. She is a daughter of Charles G. and Mary (Hall) Hamilton, both of whom were members of pioneer families, the latter having been a daughter of T. G. Hall, one of the first of the real pioneers of Jackson County.

Four children have been born to Neal and Christine Chiles, three of whom are living, viz: the first child born died in infancy; Haydin Maxwell Chiles, born June 15, 1898; Martha Louise Chiles, born Aug. 12, 1900; Mary Hamilton Chiles, born June 23, 1907.

Mr. Chiles is a Democrat, who has taken an active interest in county political matters, and is influential in his party. Mr. and Mrs. Chiles are members of the Baptist church, and both are most favorably known in their section of the county.

**James W. Propst**, proprietor of a valuable 100-acre farm in Fort Osage township, southeast of Buckner, Mo., is a native of Ohio. He was born Oct. 30, 1860, in Pickaway County, a son of William and Elizabeth (Sawyer) Propst, both of whom were born and reared in Pickaway County. William Propst removed with his family to Illinois in the spring of 1865, and settled in Piatt County, where he remained until 1874, and then came to Jackson County. He purchased 400 acres of land of the Chrisman-Sawyer Banking Company, and in February, 1875, began the work of developing and improving his land. He was born June 24, 1810, and died June 11, 1899. His wife, Elizabeth, was born Jan. 2, 1824, and died Feb. 1, 1904. The children born to William and Elizabeth Propst are: William Henry, deceased; Reeves Propst, born Feb. 27, 1865, resides in Fort Osage township; Mrs. Jennie Lind West, a widow, resides in Buckner, born March 30, 1869; James W. Propst, of this review. William Propst had a brother and sister: Henry Propst, born in Pickaway County, Ohio, Nov. 22, 1814, and died at Napoleon, Mo., May 26, 1870; and Mrs. Rachel Reeves, born in 1812, and died March 31, 1899.

James W. Propst attended the public schools in Illinois and Missouri. His father's estate was divided among the three children, each receiving 133 acres. Mr. Propst sold  $33 \frac{1}{3}$  acres to his brother, which left him 100 acres.

Mr. Propst was married April 14, 1897, to Miss Elnora Plum, who was born on a farm near Buckner, Dec. 8, 1874, a daughter of Levi and Laura (Bollenbaugh) Plum, natives of Franklin County, Ohio. Levi Plum came to Jackson County in 1869, and was married here to Laura

Bollenbaugh, Feb. 28, 1871. He was born in 1836, and died on Oct. 25, 1907. During the Civil War, Mr. Plum served three years in an Ohio regiment. Mrs. Laura Bollenbaugh Plum was born Oct. 3, 1852, and accompanied her parents to Missouri in 1868. Five daughters and two sons were born to Levi and Elizabeth Plum, four of whom survive, viz: Mrs. Elnora Propst, of this review; Etha, wife of Alex Hendrick, a grocer and hardware merchant, Buckner, Mo.; Lucy and Caroline, live with their mother.

Mr. Propst is an Independent politically, and is affiliated with the Masonic lodge of Buckner.

**Rufus Granville Charlton**, late well known citizen of Fort Osage township, was born in Virginia, in 1832, and died at his home in Jackson County in 1901. He was a son of James and Mary (Cecil) Charlton. They moved from Virginia to Lewis County, Mo., about 1839, and one year later went to Illinois. Rufus G. Charlton was reared to manhood in Illinois, and came to Jackson County in 1867. His first investment was in 80 acres of land in Fort Osage township. He subsequently added 40 acres to this, and again made an addition of 15 acres of timber land, which made his total holdings 135 acres.

Mr. Charlton was first married in Illinois to Dorinda Cobb, who died in 1870, leaving five children, three of whom are deceased. The two living are: Albert H., Washington; and Robert Charlton, Buckner, Mo. His second marriage took place in March, 1872, to Miss Mildred Jones, who was born Oct. 19, 1856, near Sibley, Mo., a daughter of Josiah E. Jones, a sketch of whom appears in connection with that of J. E. Jones, of Fort Osage township. Of ten children born of this union, nine were reared: Rufus J., south of Tarsney, Mo.; James, lives within four miles of the home place; Oscar, lives in Washington; Lockey, died Nov. 2, 1918, was the wife of Earl Parker, and left four children; Cozetta, wife of Levy Jones, died Feb. 6, 1905, left one son, Roy C.; Phineas, died in 1900; Mrs. Elizabeth, wife of Joseph McCool, Manhattan, Kan.; Mrs. Mary Virginia, wife of Chester Hankinberry, has two children, Chester and Mildred; Mabel, wife of Mark Southern, has three children, Rufus Henderson, Mark Wendell and Helen. All of the children of Rufus G. and Mildred Charlton have good homes and are prosperous.

Mr. Charlton was a stanch Democrat, and a member of Six Mile Baptist Church. For over 51 years Mrs. Mildred Charlton has been a member of the same church and, in point of years of membership, is one of its oldest members.



**Clinton A. Winfrey.**—One of the truly remarkable successes achieved during the past decade in Jackson County is that of Clinton A. Winfrey, of Fort Osage township, whose splendid farm of 540 acres is located near Lake City. Two hundred and forty acres of this farm is bottom land, which is very fertile, and according to geologists, is a part of the bed of the old course of the Missouri River. The Winfrey farm consists of 160 acres, and is devoted to stock raising. Two concrete silos of 180 tons capacity, serve to store forage for the winter season. Mr. Winfrey feeds and markets about 300 head of hogs annually. The Winfrey residence is a large, modern residence of handsome appearance, and the barns and out-buildings are in keeping with the residence.

When C. A. Winfrey came to Jackson County, in February, 1885, he had nothing with which to begin his career. He worked as farm laborer for Joseph Reber, at a wage of \$16 a month, and in the meantime attended the business college at Sedalia. For some years he worked in the summer seasons and taught school during the winters. In 1890, he rented land and commenced farming on his own account. In 1893, he moved to Leavenworth County, Kan., purchased a farm there, and cultivated it until 1896. He then returned to Jackson County, and located in Buckner, where he and his brother conducted a mercantile business successfully until 1900. He then sold out, and in 1901 resumed farming. In 1903, he purchased his present farm, and has remodeled the buildings and otherwise improved the place.

Clinton A. Winfrey was born Jan. 29, 1867, in Laclede County, Mo., the son of Elisha and Margaret (Brown) Winfrey, natives of Kentucky. Elisha Winfrey was born in 1818, and died in 1887. He moved to Dallas County, Mo., in 1835, and was there married to Margaret Brown, who was born in 1828, and died in 1905. She moved to Missouri with her parents, in 1832. The Winfreys moved to Laclede County in 1865, and there spent the remainder of their lives. They had ten children, as follows: Charles M., was a Union veteran, died at the age of 16; Mrs. Susan Owensby, deceased; Reuanna, deceased; Thomas D., a farmer in Fort Osage township; James E., Stella, Nebraska; Mrs. Lucy Wheeler, Jackson County; J. C. Winfrey, living on the Lexington road; O. M., deceased; Elijah Y., whose whereabouts are unknown; Jesse A., Long each, Calif.; Columbus F., an orchardist, near Buckner; Clinton A., of this review; and William I., who died at the age of 18 years.

A curious story surrounds the life of Elijah Y. Winfrey. When he was four years old, a battle between Union and Confederate soldiers had



taken place in the vicinity of the Winfrey home, in Dalls County. The little fellow was playing in the yard. Passing soldiers picked him up and carried him away. None of the family saw the boy for seven years, and he was then found in Vernon County, when 11 years old. The boy was taken to his home, where he remained for a few years, and again disappeared. He did not make his appearance until 1896, long years afterward, and he then remained but a short time among his relatives. Wanderlust, which had impregnated his mind and system, again seized him, and he left the country. Members of his family have no idea what eventually became of him, but it is possible that he may again make his appearance.

C. A. Winfrey received a good education in the schools of his native county, and continued his studies after he came to Jackson County, and obtained employment in 1885. He was married in 1894 to Miss Lulu James, born in Jackson County, a daughter of Julius W. and Emily (Gibson) James. The children born of this marriage are: Leita, born April 11, 1895, wife of Stanley G. Robinson, of Ashton, Idaho, who has one son, Donald Winfrey; Margaret, born March 14, 1902, is at home with her parents; Jessie, was born Feb. 18, 1904; and Frances Virginia, born Aug. 16, 1915.

Mr. Winfrey is a director of the Bank of Buckner. He is a Democrat, and is prominent in the affairs of his party in Jackson County. For four years he served as justice of the peace, and is a member of the county election board ever since the election commission was authorized in 1917. He is a member of the Christian church. While in Kansas he became affiliated with the Woodmen of the World.

**John B. Campbell** came to this county, a poor man and rose through years of industry and well directed effort to become one of the large land owners of the county. He left behind him an imperishable record as a successful citizen of which his descendants have good and just right to be proud. John B. Campbell was born in Loudoun County, Va., Jan. 20, 1822, and died at his home in Jackson County on March 4, 1884. He was a son of James and Rebecca (Grubb) Campbell, of Virginia, his ancestors being old American stock of Scotch descent. He was reared to young manhood in his native state and in 1850 removed to Ohio. In his youth he had learned the trade of wagon maker, serving an apprenticeship for five years from the time he was 13 until he had attained the age of 18 years. During this time he received only his board and clothes for his work. For some time after serving his apprenticeship his earnings went toward the support of his mother and the family. He was a skilled



JOHN B. CAMPBELL.



MRS. RACHEL CAMPBELL.





artisan who could take the wood from the forest and fashion it into wooden rakes, cradle fingers, wagon rims, spokes, etc. He plied his trade in Virginia and in Ohio prior to coming to Missouri in 1854. Mr. Campbell arrived in Jackson County with but little means and was only able to buy a small tract of 12 acres of land at the start. He was ambitious, however, and desired that his family should be well provided for in the future. He had faith in the ultimate development of the country and invested every dollar he could earn in Jackson County land. He accumulated large areas of farm lands, not however, without the exercise of the most rigid economy and doing without all but the absolute necessities of life. In 1862, Mr. Campbell left Missouri and went to Lawrence, Kan., going from there to Eudora where he traded with the Indians and obtained title to 1,000 acres of Kansas lands. He remained in that state until 1867. Mr. Campbell became owner of over 2,000 acres of land. Of this large acreage he gave outright, 1,395 acres to his children. The greater part of the Campbell land is now owned by his descendants. While his major activities were devoted to farming and stock raising he had other interests which enhanced his wealth. During 1872 and 1873 he became interested in mining and was superintendent of coal mines at Carbondale, Kan. His forethought in being frugal and gathering a competence has borne fruit, inasmuch as all of his children and descendants are well to do and are respected citizens of the community where he was long a leading citizen.

One of the incidents connected with Mr. Campbell's advent in Missouri is well worth recording. When he came here, he brought with him two hens and a rooster of the large Shanghai breed, a breed of poultry at that time unknown in Jackson County. His possession of these large chickens excited the admiration of the country side and his neighbors all desired to have some of the famous breed. Accordingly, Mr. Campbell and his wife took the best of care of the chickens and permitted the hens to lay on the bed. The eggs sold for 50 cents each for hatching purposes and it was not long until the results of their industry bought and paid for 40 acres of prairie land which cost \$2.50 an acre. The first home of the Campbells in Jackson County was a one room log cabin. The owner bored holes in the logs, drove in stakes and made a rude frame for the bed, cords and withes being stretched across the frame and a layer of straw serving for the mattress. Mr. Campbell used a dry goods box for a table and everything about the cabin was of the rudest description.

John B. Campbell was married in Loudoun County, Va., Aug. 17, 1847,

to Rachel A. Grubb, who was born Oct. 6, 1822 and departed this life Sept. 10, 1910. She was a daughter of Richard and Charity Rebecca (Morrison) Grubb, of Loudoun County, Virginia. The children born to this marriage are: Joseph E., deceased; Mrs. Mary E. Worley, widow, Oak Grove, Mo.; Rebecca, James S. and John B., deceased; George G., Oak Grove, Mo.; Mrs. Sarah Hawes, Oak Grove, Mo.; Ruth, deceased.

Richard Grubb was a son of William and Rachel Grubb and he was born Jan. 12 1782. Charity (Morrison) Grubb was a daughter of Archibald and Jane Morrison and was born Oct. 1, 1822. To them were born the following children: Joseph Perry, Jane, Edward, Benjamin Johnson, Richard Jackson, William Buckley, Rachel Ann, Mrs. Charity Grubb and Samuel Newton Grubb.

Joseph E. Campbell was born in Virginia, Aug. 18, 1848 and died June 17, 1918, at his home on 516 South Liberty street, Independence, leaving a widow, Mrs. Margaret (Harrah) Campbell, and two children: Charlie E. and Mrs. Emma Alice Wyatt. Joseph E. Campbell was a successful farmer and stockman in Jackson County.

Mary E. Campbell nee Worley was born in Adams County, Ohio, March 21, 1851 and was reared to womanhood in Jackson County. Aug. 17, 1871 she was united in marriage with Albert H. Worley of Lafayette County, Mo. Mr. Worley died Aug. 6, 1881. Three children were born to this marriage: Laura E., born Jan. 28, 1873, died June 12, 1873; John S. Worley, born April 19, 1876, has an important position with the Interstate Commerce Commission and is head of the government office in Kansas City, Mo.; Albert H. Worley, born April 4, 1882, is also an employe of the government with the Interstate Commerce Commission. Charity R. Campbell was born in Adams County, Ohio.

John S. Worley was educated in the Kansas University at Lawrence, Kansas, and upon his graduation took the highest honors of his class. He received the degrees of A. B. and A. M.. He has followed the profession of engineer and at the present time is connected with the work of making a physical valuation of the railroad properties in the western country as a part of his duties with the Interstate Commerce Commission. He married Mamie Baker of Odessa, Mo. and has one child, Mary Louise, aged seven years. Besides following the profession of engineer he has studied law and was recently admitted to the practice of law at Jefferson City in 1919.

Albert H. Worley is also a graduate of the Kansas University taking high honors. He is following the engineering profession and is concerned



with the appraisement of the railroad properties. He married Gertrude Andrews of Lawrence, Kansas.

Charity R. Campbell was born in Adams County, Ohio, March 12, 1853 and died Aug. 24, 1859.

James R. Campbell was born April 1, 1855 in Jackson County, Mo. and died June 7, 1855.

John B. Campbell was born Aug. 13, 1856, a sketch of whom appears in this volume.

George Grubb Campbell was born Oct. 15, 1859 on a farm seven miles north of Oak Grove. He was reared and educated in Jackson County and has always followed farming and stock raising. Mr. Campbell is owner of 453 acres of land in three improved farms. One farm of 53 acres is located within one-half mile of Oak Grove. Mr. Campbell retired from active farm work and has rented out all of his land except the tract of 53 acres. He is raising Oxford sheep on this land, his herd being led by a pure bred sire purchased in Canada. In 1910 Mr. Campbell erected a fine, modern residence of seven rooms in Oak Grove and he is here making his home. Mr. Campbell was married Oct. 12, 1882, to Miss Alice Steinhauser, who was born in Illinois, Feb. 1, 1862, a daughter of John and Margaret (Reeves) Steinhauser, both of whom were natives of Ohio. They came to Missouri and settled in the Campbell neighborhood near Oak Grove in 1870. George Campbell and his future wife were schoolmates, attending school in the Campbell school house, now known as Glen Side. John Steinhauser was born in 1820 and died in 1891. Mrs. Margaret Steinhauser was born in 1844. The children of the Steinhauser family were: Mrs. George G. Campbell of this review; George M., a farmer; Frank B., tenant on the Campbell farm; Charles, deceased; Harry E., Independence, Mo.; Mrs. Ida L. Morgan, Independence; Effie, wife of Charles Campbell, Independence, Mo.

The children born to George G. and Alice Campbell are: Ella M. Campbell, born 1883, died in 1890; Millard S., born July 21, 1904. Mr. Campbell is a Republican and he and Mrs. Campbell are members of the Methodist church. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

Sarah R. Campbell was born Jan. 21, 1862, married Granville S. Hawes in 1882 and resides in Oak Grove. They have two children: Arthur G. Hawes, married Herman Grumpke, and is father of three children, Rachel, Virginia and Granville Herman; Lulu Hawes is a stenographer in Kansas City.

John B. Campbell was a man of fine education, obtaining his schooling



despite the handicap of early poverty. He worked nights and mornings while studying at Leesburg College, Va. After taking up his residence in Jackson County, his services as a learned man were in great demand among his neighbors, many of whom were illiterate. He was expert in clerical work and was frequently called upon to make out deeds, bills, etc., for the people of the neighborhood. He was one of the organizers of the Methodist church in his neighborhood; the first services of the Mecklin church organization was held in his house and yard, the first meeting being attended by four bonafide church members, thus forming the nucleus of what later became a prosperous country church. For years he was class leader and he served as superintendent of the Sunday School during his many years of residence in Jackson County. With the late J. M. Adams, he organized the Masonic Lodge at Pink Hill, the headquarters of this lodge being later removed to Oak Grove. Mr. Campbell was well posted in Masonry and being familiar with the ritual, he served as instructor for a long period.

**Julius Willhite Powell.**—The newly erected Powell residence on the Lexington road in Fort Osage township will add to the value and attractiveness of the fine Powell farm of 340 acres upon which J. W. Powell and his family have resided since 1900. A fire destroyed the old home with much of its contents on the afternoon of Oct. 12, 1919. Passersby in automobiles saw the blaze and many stopped their cars and assisted in salvaging the household goods and family treasures. Work was immediately begun upon the erection of the new home, so as to have it ready for occupancy by the latter part of December.

J. W. Powell was born in Davis County, Mo., in 1857. He is a son of Isham Powell, who was killed by a traction car in Independence in 1905. Isham Powell was a native of Henry County, Ky. He served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. During the early days of the settlement of north Missouri, he rode horseback from his old home in Kentucky to this State. In 1867, Mr. Powell came to Jackson County, and settled in this county. His wife was Mary Ann (Spyers) Powell, who was born in 1831, and died March 5, 1919. Isham and Mary Ann Powell were parents of six children: Mrs. Kate Moore, Independence; Richard, Blue Springs, Mo.; Julius W., of this review; Robert, Fort Scott, Kan.; William, deceased; Joseph, Blue Springs, Mo.

Mr. Powell bought 40 acres of his present home farm on time in 1884. He placed all of the improvements on the place, and has built up a valuable farm, and now owns 340 acres. He was married March 16, 1886,

to Miss Ella Hudspeth, who was born in Osage township, Nov. 6, 1860. She is a daughter of George W. and Elizabeth (Jessee) Hudspeth, who lived all of their lives in Jackson County. George W. Hudspeth was born in Simpson County, Ky., Jan. 27, 1820, and was a son of William Hudspeth, who settled in Jackson County in 1828. He took two trips to Mexico when a young man, and made several journeys to California, spending five years on the Pacific coast. He married Miss Elizabeth Jessee in March, 1857. She was a native of Russell County, Va., born in 1830, and died in Jackson County in 1899. George W. Hudspeth died in 1905. The children born to George W. and Elizabeth Hudspeth were: Tabitha Paralee, deceased wife of Joseph Vancleva, of Kentucky; Mrs. Ella Powell, of this review; Lelia, wife of Dr. Ravenscraft, Buckner, Mo.; Ida, wife of John W. Lenox, Lake City, Mo.; Joel, Fort Osage township; Silas, Maywood, Mo. George W. Hudspeth owned nearly 800 acres of land in Jackson County, and was one of the successful men of the county.

The children born to Julius W. and Ella Powell are as follows: Grace, Lena, Richard and Burk. Grace is employed by the government, at Washington, D. C. Lena is the wife of Edwin Frost, of Charlotte, N. C., and has one child, Anna Vivian. Richard Powell was born April 7, 1897, and served 22 months in the World War. He enlisted in August, 1917, was trained at Camp Doniphan, and was placed in the supply service department as wagoner. He went to France in May, 1918, and served there until April 9, 1919. He was discharged from the service at Camp Funston, May 6, 1919. While in the war he was a member of Supply Company, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Field Artillery, and served in the Vosgs Mountains, St. Mihiel, the Argonne Forest, and was on two sectors at Verdun. Burk Powell is at home. He was in training camp at Columbia, S. A. T. C.

Mr. Powell is a Democrat. He and Mrs. Powell are members of Six Mile Baptist Church. He is a member of the Yeomen.

**Alpheus D. Neer.**—For 66 years, A. D. Neer, of Sniabar township, has lived upon his country place north of Oak Grove. Every building and every rod of fence on this place was erected by Mr. Neer. The Neer farm embraces 328 acres, all in one body. A. D. Neer was born in Loudoun County, Va., Oct. 20, 1852, a son of Jesse and Matilda (Kalb) Neer.

Jesse Neer, the father, was born and reared in Virginia. In April, 1853, when the subject of this sketch was an infant, the family started for Missouri. They drove overland in wagons to St. Louis, and then came up the river by boat to Lexington, where they landed in August of



that year. Jesse Neer came to Jackson County, and bought 640 acres on the border between Lafayette and Jackson counties, 100 acres of the land being over the line in Lafayette County. In 1854, he erected a brick residence, which was burned during the Civil War. The family moved to Ray County during the war, when Order No. 11 was issued, and in March, 1865, they went to Illinois, and returned in the fall of that year. Mr. Neer built a log house, which served as his home until he rebuilt and remodeled the brick house, in 1867. Jesse Neer was born in 1799, and died in 1873. His wife, Matilda, was born in 1806, and died in 1884.

Thirteen children were born to Jesse and Matilda Neer, 11 of whom were reared, as follow: Mrs. Ann S. Conard, S. A.; Joseph F.; Elijah D., Asbury; N. C.; L. C., deceased; Mrs. Amanda E. Trigg, a widow, Oak Grove, Mo.; A. J., deceased; E. H., lives in Oregon; and A. D., the subject of this sketch.

Asbury and N. C. Neer were physicians, and both served as surgeons in the Confederate Army. L. C. Neer served in the Confederate Army. After the war Asbury Neer practiced his profession at Redfork, Ark. Nathan Neer practiced medicine at Weatherford, Texas.

After his mother's death, A. D. Neer purchased the homestead from the other heirs, and has added to his acreage as he prospered. When the father divided his land among the children, all of them, except A. D., sold their holdings, and moved to other parts of the country.

Mr. Neer was married Jan. 11, 1887, to Miss Mary F. Grubb, who was born Oct. 4, 1855, in Lafayette County, a daughter of George W. and Jane Ann Grubb. Mr. and Mrs. Neer have one child, Ethel Alice, at home with her parents.

The remains of Mr. Neer's parents are buried in Green's Chapel cemetery. Green's Chapel is one of the pioneer churches in this section of Missouri, and the churchyard is the final resting place of many pioneers of Jackson County. Mr. Neer is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

**Luther Edward Majors**, well known and prosperous farmer of Sniabar township, has the unique distinction of having been the youngest freighter to accompany an overland freight train across the plains. He did this when but 14 years of age, a full-fledged mule driver, in 1864, at a time when crossing the plains was deemed unsafe on account of Indian troubles, and an inevitable war with the redmen was brewing.

Mr. Majors was born in Cass County, Sept. 2, 1850, but has resided in Jackson County since 1872, and is thus rightly classed with the old



settlers of the county. He was a son of Samuel Majors, a native of Kentucky.

Samuel Majors was born in 1818, and died on May 1, 1894. He was a son of John Majors, a Kentucky pioneer, whose father was Col. Thomas Majors, a Tennessean, who served as colonel in the Revolutionary War, and was of English parentage. Samuel Majors left Kentucky and came to Cass County, Mo., in 1839. He was there married to Octavia Nelson, who was born in Kentucky, a daughter of Reuben Nelson, also a pioneer in Cass County. Mrs. Octavia Majors was born in 1818, and died in 1875. Mr. Majors lived in Cass County until 1872, when he moved to Jackson County and purchased the Jacob Gregg farm. He became a large land owner. During his later years he lived among his children, and died in Cass County, near Freeman. He was the father of four children, as follow: John, living near Freeman, Cass County; Luther Edward, subject of this review; Samuel, living at 417½ Hardesty street, Kansas City; and Sarah, deceased.

Seized with the spirit of adventure, when but 14 years of age, Luther E. Majors joined a freighting outfit, in May, 1865, as it started from Westport, en route to Fort Laramie. The wagon train was organized at Shawneetown, but waited for another train to come up from Santa Fe. The wagons were loaded on the levee at Leavenworth, Kan., and the cattle were herded on the old penitentiary yards. Sixty-five wagons were in this large cavalcade, which was operated by Bryant and Benard. Young Majors was a driver. Without mishap the train reached Fort Laramie, and started on the return trip, arriving at Leavenworth on Sept. 1, 1865. On the homeward bound trip they passed the Horse Creek battle ground, soon after a battle with the Indians, and young Majors saw dead bodies still lying on the ground.

He returned to his home and farmed on the home place until he came to Jackson County, in 1872. Mr. Majors' first home in this county was on the Jake Gregg place, purchased by his father. In 1880, he purchased his present farm, and has prospered as a result of tireless industry and good financial management. He and his son, Robert E. Majors, own together, 311.5 acres, upon which are located two bearing apple orchards, one of which is 15 acres, and the other seven acres, and both of which were planted and have been cared for by Mr. Majors, and are now yielding excellent crops of fruit.

L. E. Majors was married in Cass County, in 1871, to Miss Eva Akings, who was born in Cass County in 1856, a daughter of John

Akings. Mr. and Mrs. Majors have three children: Cora, Robert E. and Jennie. Mrs. Cora Hutchins lives in the Cherokee strip, Oklahoma, and has five children, Mamie, Blanche, John Morris, Myra and Trusten. Robert E. Majors is a bachelor, owns a farm of 84 acres and is in charge of the Majors farm. Mrs. Jennie Vosburgh lives near Mt. Washington, and has an infant son, Richard V.

Mr. Majors and his son, Robert E., are Democrats and take an active interest in county politics. Both are popular and influential in eastern Jackson County, and are highly esteemed. The only civic position which Mr. Majors has ever held was that of census enumerator of Blue Springs precinct, in 1890.

**Ernest S. Bennett**, a leading Jackson County attorney, and the present mayor of Lees Summit, has been successfully engaged in the practice of law here for the past 16 years. Mr. Bennett is a native of Jackson County. He was born in Independence, Dec. 4, 1869, and is a son of George W. and Dorcas (Elliott) Bennett. George W. Bennett was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, July 4, 1827. His parents were Joshua and Amelia (Channel) Bennett, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Ohio. Joshua Bennett died in Ohio in 1860, and his wife departed this life in 1874. The Bennett family is an old colonial family of English descent and was founded in America by James Bennett, a native of England, who came to America in 1750.

George W. Bennett came to Jackson County in 1867 and settled on a farm near Independence. After remaining there two years he moved to Prairie township, where he successfully followed farming and stock raising on the same place for over 50 years. In 1920 he moved to Lees Summit where he is spending the sunset of his life in retirement. His wife, Dorcas (Elliott) Bennett, was born in Iowa, April 27, 1836, and died in Jackson County, April 19, 1888. Her father, Thomas L. Elliott, was a native of Ireland and came to America in about 1800.

To George W. and Dorcas (Elliott) Bennett were born the following children: Mrs. Samantha Winburn, Lees Summit; George M., Mountain Park, Okla.; Charles H., Wagoner, Okla.; Mary E., married T. S. Hickman, and is now deceased; Mrs. Ida Dodds, Denver, Colo.; Morton E., Mountain Park, Okla.; Ernest S., the subject of this sketch; Thomas J., Denver, Col.; Bert C., Mt. Park, Okla.; and Mrs. Martha E. Walters, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Ernest S. Bennett was reared on the home farm in Jackson County and received his education in the public schools of Lees Summit and Spald-



ing's Commercial College and was graduated from the latter institution April 16, 1891. In 1893, he entered the United States Railway Mail Service and served in the capacity of postal clerk for nine years, resigning in 1902. While he was in the mail service he studied law in the Law Department, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., graduating June 22, 1897, and was admitted to the bar. In 1897 and 1902 he was engaged in the practice of his profession at Lawton, Okla., remaining there until 1904. He then came to Lees Summit, where he has since practiced. Mr. Bennett is an able lawyer and has built up an extensive practice. He is a profound student of law and has made a success of his chosen profession. He numbers among his clients some of the leading business men of Lees Summit and Jackson County.

Mr. Bennett was united in marriage April 14, 1910 with Miss Georgia Shawhan, a native of Jackson County. She is a daughter of Duncan D. and Effie (Harris) Shawhan, natives of Kentucky and Missouri, respectively. To Mr. and Mrs. Bennett have been born three children, as follow: Howard P., aged seven years; James G., aged four and Effie E., aged two years.

Mr. Bennett was elected mayor of Lees Summit in 1918 and is giving that thriving city a real business administration. He is a Democrat and a member of the Methodist church. He holds membership in the Knights of Pythias lodge.

**James Byron McKeever**, late well known farmer of Brooking township, was born in Baltimore, Md., in 1838, and died at his home in Jackson township, March 7, 1917. He was a son of Isaac and Sarah (St. John) McKeever, the former of whom was a native of Scotland, the latter of Baltimore. Isaac McKeever was a millwright by trade, and erected many water power mills in the State of Maryland during his career.

James B. McKeever was reared and educated in his native city, and became a bookkeeper. He was married in 1863 to Miss Sarah J. Storms, who was born March 19, 1841, on a farm located on the border line of Maryland and Pennsylvania. She is a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Trump) Storms, both natives of Pennsylvania, of old Pennsylvania German stock. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. McKeever moved to Cecil County, Md., where James B. engaged in merchandising from 1866 to 1868. In 1868 they came to Independence with the intention of locating on a farm. After a stay of 16 days in Independence they moved to their newly purchased farm in Brooking township. They first bought 40 acres, which presumably had a house on it. After moving in the house and



living there for a few months, they discovered that the 40 on which they were living was not really their own, through information imparted by a kind neighbor. They thereupon went to the city and bought another 40 at public sale. Mr. McKeever soon erected a residence, which is still the home of his wife and son. The next purchase was of 80 acres, and the last purchase was nine acres, making in all over 170 acres in the McKeever home place. The farm is devoted to general farming and dairying; 10 to 12 cows being milked on the place, which is in charge of Harvey W. McKeever.

To James Byron and Elizabeth McKeever were born five children, as follow: Charles Wesley, Ella Eugenie, Harvey W., Emma Lee, and Addie. Charles Wesley McKeever has lived in Idaho for the past 30 years. He married Ella Dowdney, and has three children, Wallace, Harry, and Mabel. Ella Eugenie is the wife of Lee Dehoney, of Raytown, and has three children, Byron, who served in the National Army, and saw service in France with the A. E. F., and Alberta and Ethel M. Harvey W. McKeever was born in December, 1868, is managing the McKeever farm. He is a Republican, and a member of the Baptist church. Emma Lee is the wife of H. C. Cox, and has two children, Emma Lee and Thornton Cox. Addie is the wife of Alonzo Irwin, and has five sons, Roy, Otis, Arthur, Webster and Alonzo.

The St. Johns, ancestors of the McKeevers on the paternal side, were of Scotch-Irish descent, who came from the north of Ireland to America in 1792, and were a prominent family who settled in Baltimore. Mrs. McKeever has an interesting relic, a saber in good state of preservation, which was carried by one of the St. Johns many years ago in one of the wars which was waged between England and Scotland. The late James Byron McKeever was a member of the Baptist church.

**Alfred Hewitt Cole.**—Overlooking the great and growing Kansas City in the western part of Brooking township, is the pretty country estate of Alfred Hewitt Cole, a native of Jackson County. The Cole farm borders on the city limits of Kansas City, and is devoted to general farming and dairying. This farm consists of 60 acres, and has been the home of Mr. Cole for the past 42 years. Mr. Cole was born on an adjoining farm, Sept. 16, 1852, and is a son of Alfred and Harriet (Blevins) Cole, the former a native of Tennessee, who came to Jackson County in 1843. He entered government land, cleared away the trees and underbrush, and built up an estate, comprising 320 acres, a good part of which is now within the corporate limits of Kansas City. He died in the fall of 1854. Mrs. Harriet

Cole died July 10, 1876. In the fall of 1873, in pursuance of Order No. 11, Mrs. Cole took her family to Nebraska, where they remained until the close of the Civil War, in 1865. There were seven children born to Alfred and Harriet Cole, as follow: Jackson, died in the spring of 1861; William—died in 1854; James, deceased; Jesse, died on A. H. Cole's place, Dec. 25, 1915; Mrs. Elizabeth Ross, died in Colorado; Mrs. Celia Cole, lives near Stillwell, in Johnson County, Kan.; and Alfred Hewitt, of this review.

The first school which Alfred Cole attended was a frame structure with slab benches, made from splitting a tree trunk and hewing one side, and fitting it with pegs. A flat plank was nailed against the wall, and this served for a writing desk for all the pupils. When very young, A. H. Cole went to work, the father being dead, all the boys of the family had to do their shares of the farm work as they were able. In 1860, he set up corn shocks with his brother, Jesse, in the field, and both boys worked from daylight until dark, there being no limit to the number of hours a boy or man should work in those days. He and his brother, Jesse, took charge of the farm, which their mother had practically paid for after the father's death, and in time bought out the other heirs. After his marriage, in 1877, Mr. Cole lived in a log house until he had erected his present home.

Mr. Cole was married in 1877 to Miss Catherine Stapp, who was born in Kentucky in 1855, and is a daughter of Washington Stapp, who was an early settler of Jackson County. Seven children were born to this marriage, six of whom are living, as follow: Charles C., lives two miles east of Raytown; Alfred, Raytown, Mo.; Mrs. Dollie Cassell, lives one mile north of Raytown; Mrs. Bertie Lane, lives three-fourths of a mile east; Frank and Beatrice, at home.

Frank Cole served six months in the National Army, and was in training at Camp Jackson, S. C.

Mr. Cole is a Democrat and is a member of the Christian church. For the past 25 years he has been affiliated with the Masonic lodge at Raytown, Mo.

**John W. Lenox**, owner of 250 acres of fertile land in Fort Osage township, part of which is bottom land, a breeder of Hereford cattle since 1896, was born in Lafayette County, Mo., in 1871. He is a son of Charles and Elizabeth (Lettz) Lenox.

Charles Lenox was born in Ohio, in 1831, and died in Jackson County, Mo., in December, 1898. He came to Missouri in 1858, and was employed on a farm in Jefferson County when the Civil War broke out. Union



soldiers had mobilized and were camped in the neighborhood of the farm where he was working. The farmer and his family together with their slaves, had left the neighborhood, and he alone remained to care for the livestock and look after the place. He became lonesome and decided that he had better take part in the struggle. Learning that there was a company of Ohio soldiers in a nearby camp he made his way to Union headquarters and enlisted as a private in Company I of a regiment of Ohio infantry, Sept. 24, 1861. He served with his command until Nov. 18, 1864, and was discharged at Camp Denison, Ohio. He again enlisted as a veteran and served until the close of the war. He participated in the Battle of Shiloh, and was wounded in the thigh by a minie ball. He fought at Corinth, Miss., Island No. 10, and the battles around Vicksburg, the siege and capture of that city. Mr. Lenox saw much hard service during the war. He remained in Ohio and was married there. In 1868 he came to Jackson County, in company with John Lentz and family. He spent his first night in this county in an old house on the McQuerry place in Fort Osage township. In the spring of the following year he located on a farm near Napoleon, in Lafayette County, and remained there until 1890, with the exceptions of three years spent on a farm near Atherton. In 1890 he settled on the place now owned by the subject of this sketch. This farm has been improved by John W. Lenox, who has placed every building on it, broke a part of the blue grass sod for the first time, built the silos and has built up the place until it is one of the best in Jackson County. Mrs. Lenox resides with her daughter, Mrs. Hertzog, east of Blue Springs, Mo. There were five children born to Charles and Elizabeth Lenox, three of whom are living, as follow: John W., of this review; Thomas C., deceased; Mrs. Annie Hertzog, one mile east of Blue Springs.

Mr. Lenox's father and grandfather purchased 246 acres, a part of which J. W. Lenox owns, and to which he has added other acreage. Since 1896 he has been engaged in the breeding of pure-bred Hereford cattle, in which he has been engaged to the present time.

J. W. Lenox was married in 1897 to Miss Ida Hudspeth, who was born in Jackson County, in 1870, and is a daughter of the late George W. Hudspeth. For a history of George W. Hudspeth, the reader is referred to the sketches of J. E. Hudspeth and J. W. Powell, in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Lenox have two children: Ruth Lenox, a student in William Woods College, Fulton, Mo.; Blanche, attending the public schools.

George W. Hudspeth, for a number of years, was a plainsman and a miner in the West. He rode a mule from Missouri to Santa Fe, N. M.,



and went to California in 1849. Upon his return from the silver mines he brought with him enough pure silver with which he had made, in St. Louis, a set of solid silver tablespoons, which are the valued and highly prized property of Mrs. Lenox.

Mr. Lenox is a Democrat, a member of the Baptist church, and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He is an intelligent, well-posted and progressive citizen.

**Joel E. Hudspeth.**—It is probable that no finer nor a more extensive view of the surrounding country can be obtained than from the hill upon which the farm residence of Joel E. Hudspeth, of Fort Osage township, is located. The Hudspeth farm overlooks the Valley of the Blue—the Jackson County landscape in all of its rural beauty. The Hudspeth residence is a large, well built, modern house. The farm consists of 280 acres, upon which Mr. Hudspeth has placed all of the improvements. Mr. Hudspeth was born one and a half miles northeast of his present home. Jan. 13, 1873, and is a son of pioneer parents.

George W. Hudspeth, father of Joel E., was born in Simpson County, Ky., Jan. 27, 1820, and died at his home in Jackson County, in 1905. He was a son of Major Hudspeth, whose father fought in the War of the Revolution, and settled in Jackson County in 1827. George W. Hudspeth attained young manhood in Jackson County, and saw service with Colonel Doniphan's regiment during the Mexican War. When a young man he was adventurous, and traveled extensively over the then unknown western country. He made two trips to Mexico, and several journeys to California, working in the mines of both places. He was one of the first to make the trip to the new gold fields of California, making a second trip in 1854. Mr. Hudspeth generally prospected in the gold and silver country on his own account, and won a comfortable fortune. He served as a freighter on one or two western trips, returning from California after his first trip by way of the Isthmus of Panama. On his second trip to the Pacific coast, he made his return trip by the overland. After spending several years as a plainsman and miner he settled down to farming and stock raising, in Fort Osage township, on his estate of over 500 acres of land. When Order No. 11 was issued he moved to Ray County, and remained there until the close of the Civil War. He served as school director of his district for over 20 years, and always took a commendable interest in school and civic affairs. He was a Free Mason.

George W. Hudspeth was married in March, 1857, to Elizabeth Jessie, who was born in Russell County, Va., May 6, 1830, and died in Feb-

ruary, 1899. The children born to George W. and Elizabeth Hudspeth were: Mrs. Tabitha Paralee Vancleve, who died in Jackson County; Ella, wife of J. W. Powell, Fort Osage township; Lela, wife of Dr. Ravenscraft, Buckner, Mo.; Mrs. Ida, wife of J. W. Lenox, Fort Osage township; Joel E., of this sketch; Silas B., Maywood, Mo.

J. E. Hudspeth attended the Peacedale School, which was then located on the site of the Powell home. Afterwards he studied at the State Normal School at Warrensburg, Mo. Mr. Hudspeth has always been a farmer and stock raiser. The farm which he owns was formerly a part of his father's estate, and acquired by him through purchase of the interests of the other heirs. He was married in 1896 to Miss Hannah Jones, a native of Jackson County. Mr. and Mrs. Hudspeth have one child, Lela Catherine, a student in William Woods College, Fulton, Mo.

Mr. Hudspeth is a Democrat. Mrs. Hudspeth is a member of the Baptist church. He is affiliated with the Masons, of Independence, and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen.

**Andrew Lowe**, late well known resident and extensive farmer of Snobar township, was born in Virginia, in 1830, and died at his home in Jackson County in 1905. He was a son of John A. Lowe, a Jackson County pioneer, who came here from Virginia and settled in Jackson County, in 1844. Andrew Lowe was reared in Jackson County, and upon the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in the Confederate Army, under General Price, and served throughout the conflict. He fought at the battles of Lexington, Westport and Little Blue, and took part in the retreat of General Price's army to the South, subsequently surrendering at Shreveport, La. He rode horseback from Texas to his home in Jackson County.

Andrew Lowe was one of the old time freighter and plainsman, serving as wagon boss for Aquilla Lobb on the Santa Fe trail. He made several trips across the plains. After the war he settled down to the peaceful pursuit of agriculture, and accumulated a considerable estate, owning over 500 acres, much of which is rich bottom land, which produces splendid crops. The old Lowe residence, situated on this farm, and which served as Mr. Lowe's home for many years, was built of hewn logs, in 1839, by Crump, and is one of the oldest pioneer homes in the county, still in a good state of preservation. Mr. Lowe settled on this place after his marriage. His wife died in 1881. She was Mary Dillingham prior to her marriage, and was a cousin of Morgan V. Dillingham, of Blue Springs. Andrew and Mary Lowe were the parents of four chil-



dren, as follow: Henry, died when young; Iva, deceased; Harley, on the home place, owner of part of the home place; and Isaac N.

I. N. Lowe, proprietor of 263 acres of valuable land, all of which is bottom land, excepting 80 acres of hillside, was born in 1878, on the Lowe home place, and has lived all of his life at the place of his birth. He feeds over 50 head of hogs annually, and each year raises good crops upon his land.

Both Andrew and Mary Lowe lie buried in the Lobb cemetery. The late Andrew Lowe was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church at Lobb church, and was one of the builders of this church. For many years he was an elder of this church, and was noted for his piety, honesty and personal integrity.

**Robert W. Adams**, an enterprising and successful farmer and stockman, of Van Buren township, is the owner of a well improved farm of 80 acres. Mr. Adams was born in Mercer County, Ky., June 25, 1866, and is the son of James A. and Emma F. (Clark) Adams. They were the parents of ten children, eight of whom are living, as follows: Frank Clark, lives in Kansas; Robert W., the subject of this sketch; James T., a traveling salesman in the employ of the Missouri Seed Company, resides at Greenwood, Mo.; Adam R., lives near Lees Summit; Joseph G., lives in Prairie township; Dr. Lewis, a practicing physician and surgeon at Fredonia, Kan.; Tillie C., a teacher in the public schools of Kansas City, Mo.; and Bettie L., Kansas City, Mo.

James A. Adams was born in Mercer County, Ky., July 25, 1833, and died in Jackson County, Feb. 22, 1882. He came to Jackson County with his family in 1877, and was here engaged in farming until the time of his death. He died a comparatively young man, being less than 50 years of age. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Emma J. Clark Adams, mother of Robert W. Adams, was born in Boyle County, Ky., May 14, 1838, and now resides in Kansas City, Mo.

Robert W. Adams was about 11 years of age when he came to Jackson County with his parents, and since that time Jackson County has been his home. He began life for himself at an early age, and worked as a farm hand for 17 years. And most of that time was in the employ of Mrs. Emily Gammon. In 1908, he purchased a farm in Prairie township, and since that time has bought and sold a number of farms in Jackson County. He purchased his present place in Van Buren township in 1918, from his brother, A. R. Adams. He owns 80 acres, where he is successfully carrying on farming and stock raising.



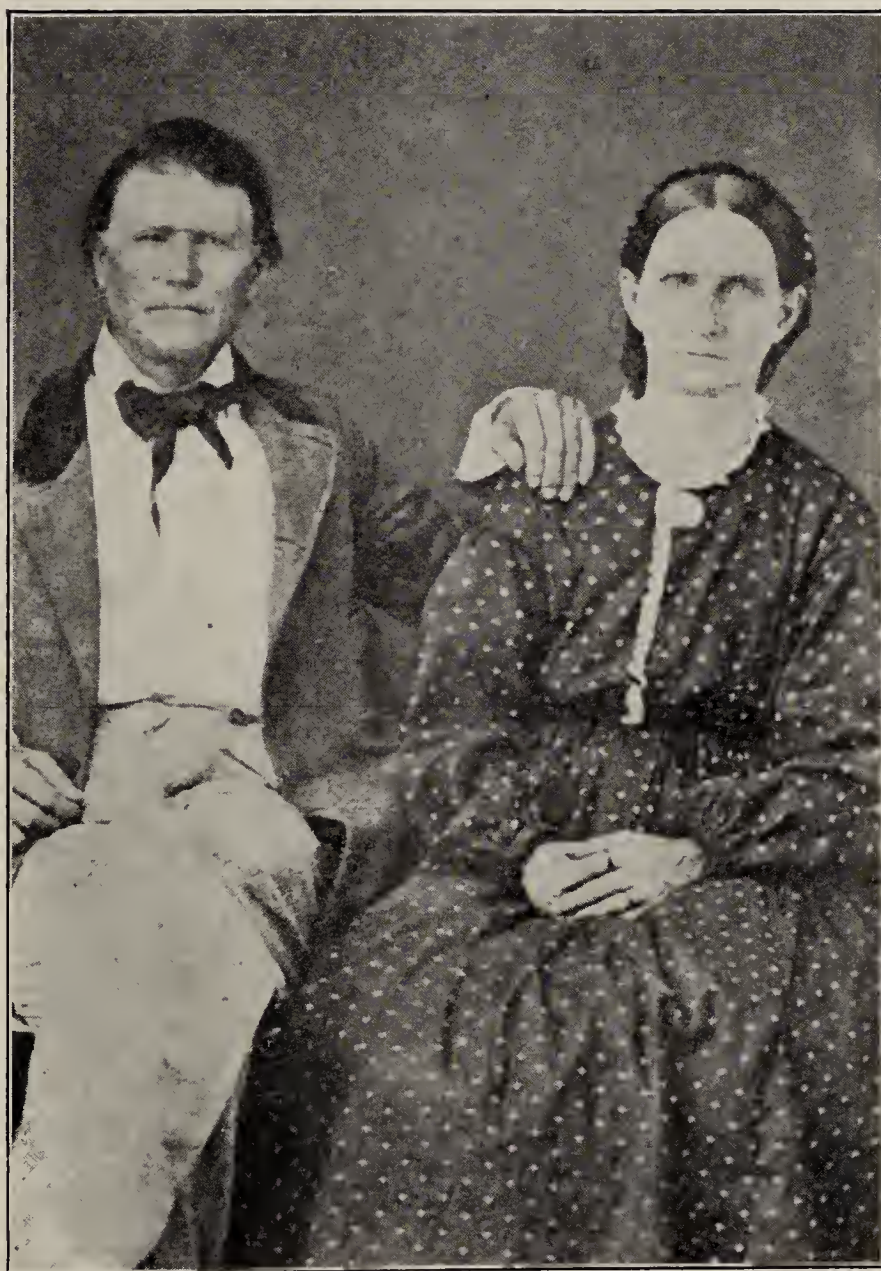
August 20, 1913, Mr. Adams was united in marriage with Miss Marion Franklin, a native of California, who came to Missouri at two years of age. She is a daughter of Captain James and Letitia (Martin) Franklin, the former a native of Missouri, and the latter of North Carolina. Captain Franklin served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, and was a captain in Gen. Joe Shelby's command. Among the many engagements in which he participated was the Battle of Lone Jack. To Mr. and Mrs. Adams has been born one child, James Robert, who resides at home with his parents.

Mr. Adams is a Democrat, and a member of the Presbyterian church.

**Spencer Talley**, a farmer and stock man of Prairie township, is a descendant of very prominent early pioneer families of Jackson County and has been identified with the interests of Jackson County all his life. He was born on the farm where he now resides in Prairie township, Jan. 19, 1852, a son of David C. and Mary Ann (Fristoe) Talley. David C. Talley was born in Kentucky, Aug. 5, 1811. He came to Missouri and settled in Jackson County about 1832. He first located at Independence, where he was engaged in the general mercantile business for three or four years, when he bought the farm in Prairie township, where Spencer L., the subject of this sketch, now resides. Here he spent the remainder of his life engaged in farming. He died May 19, 1869. His wife, Mary Ann (Fristoe) Talley, was born Sept. 10, 1820 and died Dec. 23, 1884. She was a daughter of Judge Richard Fristoe, a Jackson County pioneer, who was prominent in the early day affairs of this county. He was one of the first settlers of Independence and helped clear away the timber where the city of Independence now stands. He built the first store in Independence and was postmaster there. He was prominent in politics and represented Jackson County in the State Legislature several terms. He was a native of Kentucky. Further mention of the Talley family history appears in connection with the sketch of William W. Talley in this volume.

Spencer L. Talley was reared in Jackson County on the farm where he now resides and received his education in the public schools. He has owned the old homestead since 1878. His farm consists of 60 acres of well improved land and he has successfully carried on farming and stock raising these many years, with the exception of about two years when he served as steward of the Jackson County Home.

Mr. Talley was united in marriage Sept. 15, 1885 with Miss Susan Wade, a native of Richardson County, Neb. She was born July 28, 1865, a daughter of Uriel Wade, a native of Kentucky. He was an early set-



DAVID C. TALLEY AND WIFE.





tlar in Nebraska and homesteaded land there. Later he moved to Oklahoma, where he died.

To Spencer L. Talley and wife have been born the following children: Wade who resides on the home farm; May, married Sherman Sheldon and lives in Cass County; Mary, Kansas City, Mo.; and Carl, who resided at home.

Mr. Talley is a Democrat and a member of the Christian church. He is one of Jackson County's progressive and substantial citizens.

**Michael Casey.**—When Michael, or "Mike," Casey, prosperous farmer of Blue township, was born, he stood a chance a few hours later, of being carried away by a band of Bushwhackers, who had made a raid upon the Casey cabin, on the morning following his birth, Sept. 30, 1864. As Cornelius Casey, his father, was shaving and dressing, preparatory to making a trip to Independence, presumably to acquaint his friends of the fact that a son had been born to him, and probably to celebrate a little after his own fashion, a gang of Redlegs came to the door of the Casey home, and demanded food and whatever they desired to carry away. The little, new-born babe, was lying on the bed wrapped up in a blanket. One of the marauders grabbed up the blanket, baby and all, and started off with it. Mr. Casey shouted to him, "Hey, hold on there, there's a baby in that blanket." The Redleg thereupon unceremoniously dumped the baby out on the bed and made off with the blanket. The men also took Mr. Casey's clean shirt, which was hanging over a chair, and stripped the home of every valuable in sight.

Cornelius Casey, father of Mike Casey, was born in Ireland, in 1824, and died Jan. 12, 1888. He emigrated from Ireland when a young man, and first located in New York, and later came to Missouri. He was accompanied to America by his wife and son, another son being born to them in New York City after their arrival. He was employed on the grading of the Missouri Pacific railroad in Jackson County, and continued in the employ of the railroad company after the road was completed to Independence and Kansas City. He was an associate of the late Edward Conboy, of Jackson County. Cornelius Casey was industrious and enterprising, and after some years of railroad work he succeeded in becoming a farm owner. The Casey home was situated one and a half miles west of Mike Casey's present home, and six miles south of Independence, almost on the line of the Missouri Pacific railway. Elizabeth (Corcoran) Casey, wife of Cornelius Casey, was born in Ireland in 1829, and died in April, 1881. Their children were as follow: Thomas, deceased; Cornelius, de-

ceased; James, Denver, Colo.; Daniel, living in Iowa; Michael, the subject of this sketch; John, lives on the adjoining farm across the road, in Brooking township.

When he attained his majority, Michael Casey began his own career. He received \$60 for his first year's employment on his father's farm. The second year he was given a piece of corn ground, and received the value of the crop for his services, and for three years worked for his father for \$16 per month. His father died the following winter, and Mike then purchased the estate from the other heirs, paying for the property in 10 years' time. He built a house on the place, and resided on it for 12 years. In 1909, he sold out and purchased his present splendid farm, which consists of 150 acres in Blue township—land which is very fertile and consists of bottom land, excepting 12 acres of upland, where the house and farm buildings are located. Mr. Casey has placed all of the improvements on his farm. He purchased this farm from the Greeleys, a part of it having been entered by Mrs. Stalcup's father, Ivan Hall.

The Casey farm was overgrown with brush, and in a general run-down condition when Mr. Casey purchased it. The farm house was an old one, and situated in the valley. It was built by Ivan Hall, about a hundred years ago. The work of ridding the land of brush and redeeming the farm was tremendous, but he has been well repaid for his efforts.

For the past 20 years Mr. Casey has been a breeder of pure-bred Poland China hogs, and has achieved a State-wide reputation for the quality of the breed produced on the Casey farm. He produces over \$1,000 worth of hogs each year, practically all of his hogs being sold at private sale to discerning buyers.

Mr. Casey was married in 1890 to Mary Maloney, who was born in Wyandotte, Kan., in March, 1865, the only daughter of Frank and Annie (McCabe) Maloney, both of whom were born in Ireland, immigrated to Jackson County, and died here. The children born to this union are: Mrs. Rosa Mallen, Texas; Emmett, James, Agnes, Thomas, twins, Joseph and Annie. Mrs. Rosa Mallen has three children, Rosella and Mary and Margaret, twins. Rosa Casey was a graduate from the State Normal School at Warrensburg, and taught school five years in Jackson County, and was widely known and a popular teacher.

Emmett Casey was born Jan. 1, 1896. He was inducted into the National Army July 22, 1918, and was trained at Camp Funston, becoming a private in Company B, Sixty-ninth regiment, Tenth division, and was discharged from the service as a first class private, Jan. 25, 1919. When



Emmett was six months old he weighed 25 pounds, and won a prize for being the fattest baby exhibited at a festival held in Independence July 4, 1896. W. Z. Hickman, editor of this history, was master of ceremonies, which were conducted in Hawker's pasture. He awarded the gold ring to the fattest baby, and then held up the boy for all to see. It is recalled that Emmett laughed and crowed and everybody in the great crowd laughed with him.

Mr. Casey is a Democrat. He and his family are members of the Independence Catholic church. He is one of the best and most enterprising citizens of Jackson County, and has many warm friends in the county.

**Lloyd Martin**, former postmaster of Buckner, Mo., for 17 years, has been a resident of Jackson County nearly 50 years, and is one of the real old settlers of this county. Mr. Martin is a native of Ohio, having been born in Perry County, near the town of McLuney, five miles east of New Lexington, Oct. 9, 1851. His father, Jacob Martin, was born and reared in Perry County, and was a son of Abram Martin, a native of Pennsylvania, whose father was also a native of Pennsylvania. The Martins are of old American stock. The mother of Lloyd Martin was Charity Hitchcock, prior to her marriage, and she was born in Fairfield County, Ohio. During the Civil War Jacob Martin served four years with the Fifth Ohio Cavalry, and was in active and constant service during the entire period of his enlistment. He suffered severely from rheumatism contracted on one of the expeditions. His detachment was surrounded by the enemy, and they had to fight their way out of the trap and race for their lives, and to avoid capture. Mr. Martin lost his stirrups during the excitement, and he was forced to ride a distance of 40 miles without the support of the stirrups. The mishap and the rigors of the ride practically crippled him for life, and he was always, thereafter, a sufferer from rheumatism. After the war he removed to Jackson County, with his family, arriving at Independence, Oct. 26, 1868.

Mr. Martin was a carpenter and millwright, and erected many mills. He erected the first flouring and grist mill at Sibley after the war, to replace the one which was burned during the Civil War.

Mr. Martin settled on a farm one mile northeast of Buckner, in Fort Osage township, which he developed and made his home until 1885, when he retired to a residence in Buckner. He was born in 1824, and died July 22, 1900. Charity, his wife, was born in 1824, and died Nov. 12, 1886. Their children were as follow: Lloyd Hitchcock Martin, subject of this sketch; Areil C., wife of Noah Vest, died in 1918; Mary Jane, wife of



Phillip Miller, died in 1901; Laura E., wife of William Lillard, lives in California.

Lloyd Martin purchased his first farm in 1878, and resided thereon until 1898, when he located in Buckner. The Martin farm is a valuable tract of 80 acres, situated north of Buckner.

Mr. Martin was married in February, 1880, to Miss Alice Ucker, who was born March 15, 1860, in Pickaway County, Ohio, a daughter of John and Nancy (Barr) Ucker, natives of Ohio. Mr. Ucker came to Jackson County from Ohio in the fall of 1868, and was engaged in farming until his retirement to a home in Buckner. John Ucker was born July 4, 1835. His first wife, Nancy Barr Ucker, was born in 1840, and died in August, 1879. Their children are as follow: Mrs. Alice Martin, of this review; Anna, wife of Jacob Kellstadt, died in Ohio, in December, 1918; Lizzie Helen, wife of John C. Ahrens. Her first husband was George Kellstadt, by whom she has one child, Clara Margaret; Mary Jane Hostetler, living northeast of Buckner.

Seven children were born to Lloyd H. and Alice Martin, as follow: John, died at the age of 21 years; Nannie, died when 18 months old; Melvin and Willie, died in infancy; Jacob ester; Ethel and Anna Helen. Jacob Lester resides in Los Angeles, Calif. He married Ruth Lowry, in August, 1919. Ethel is the wife of J. R. Steele, Kansas City; Anna Helen is the wife of Robert Redding, Humboldt, Kan., and has one child, Stella Pauline.

Mr. Martin is a Republican, and has always been interested in the affairs of his party. He was appointed postmaster of Buckner in 1897, and served in this office until 1914, and during that time he achieved a reputation for a painstaking, faithful and efficient public official. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

**Benjamin U. Brown**, Brooking township, residing on his very valuable farm of 34 acres, devoted to fruit raising and dairying, is a native of Jackson County, having been born on a part of the old Brown homestead, most of which is now within the limits of Kansas City. He was born July 14, 1861, and is a son of Benjamin Brown, a native of Virginia, who settled in Jackson County in 1842. He was reared in Virginia, and there married Sidney Blevins. With his wife and one child he came to this county, and settled in the west part of Brooking township, where he first bought a small 40-acre tract. He cleared this farm of timber and improved it, and as the years passed he accumulated a total of 600 acres.

This land in past years as the city was growing more and more toward the eastward has been divided into small tracts, and sold at advanced prices. Whereas there was but one or two houses on the Brown land some years ago, there are now over 26 homes, situated in what is called the Swope Park Addition to Kansas City. Eight children were born to Benjamin and Sidney (Blevins) Brown, as follow: Mrs. Melvina Cates, Strasburg, Mo.; Isaac, deceased; Mrs. Louisa Calhoun, living on the adjoining farm; Mrs. Mary Cates, deceased; James, who met death in a runaway; Harriet, deceased; William, died at Eureka Springs, Mo.; Benjamin U., of this sketch.

Upon the first division of the Brown estate, Ben U. Brown received 38 acres. When another division was made he was given 19 acres. He has sold part of his land, and the remainder is worth anywhere from \$400 to \$1,000 an acre, because of its proximity to Kansas City.

Mr. Brown was married Dec. 16, 1885, to Miss Laura E. Fetter, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of Emanuel Fetter, an early settler of Jackson County. Two children were born of this marriage: Elmer and Ethel Maude, both of whom are at home. Elmer Brown was born Sept. 18, 1887. He was inducted into the National Army July 22, 1918, and was in training at Camp Funston as a private in the Tenth division of the army. He received his honorable discharge from the service Jan. 29, 1919.

Mr. Brown is a Democrat, and a Baptist. His memory of the old days of his boyhood is keen and he loves to reminisce of the Civil War days, and the days after the war, when the entire country was reverted to a wilderness state. The Brown family went to Nebraska when Order No. 11 was issued, and upon their return the farm had grown up in brush, and wild animals abounded. The hogs which had been left behind to seek subsistence as they might, had grown to great size and were very wild, with long, vicious looking tusks, and were dangerous. It was the custom of the farmers to shoot them on sight, as they even attacked children and grown people. A cousin, Jesse Cole, came one day to help Ben Brown kill the wild hogs on his place. Mr. Cole shot one especially vicious animal, but did not kill him. The hog chased Mr. Cole, who was forced to flee for his life, and climb the nearest tree.

The men of the neighborhood had to hide out whenever the Bushwhackers or Kansas Redlegs from across the border were in the vicinity during the early days of the war. The men of the Brown neighborhood had an almost inaccessible hiding place called the Tennessee Gulch, where they took their horses and hid for days at a time without ever being



found. This was a wild place, grown over with tangled underbrush and trees, and was the finest kind of a hiding place. While in hiding, the women would bring them food, and keep them posted as to the movements of invaders. When the family went to Nebraska the father loaded the children and what was left of his possessions in his only wagon, and drove away to safety.

**William A. Thompson**, an extensive farmer and stockman, and a progressive citizen of Van Buren township, is a native son of Jackson County, and a member of a pioneer family of Missouri. He is a son of William and Elizabeth (Simmons) Thompson, a more extensive sketch of whom appears, together of a detailed history of the Thompson family, in connection with the sketch of Oliver Thompson, which appears in this volume.

William A. Thompson received his education in the public schools, and was reared on a farm and thus acquired his knowledge of the art of farming and stock raising at first hand and by actual experience, and has followed farming and stock raising all his life. He is now the owner of a valuable farm of 363 acres, which is a part of the old Thompson home place.

Feb. 29, 1892, William A. Thompson was united in marriage with Miss May Thompson, a native of Kentucky. She was born Aug. 28, 1866, in Rockcastle County, Ky., a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Cloyd) Thompson, both natives of Kentucky. George Thompson went from Kentucky to Illinois with his family, and in 1882 came to Missouri and settled in Cass County, where he was engaged in farming.

To William A. Thompson and wife were born twin sons, as follows: Robert and Ralph, born May 16, 1898, and both residing at home with their father. The mother died May 28, 1903.

Mr. Thompson is a member of the Christian church, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a substantial citizen and highly regarded in the community where he has always lived.

**James R. Webb.**—For 53 years James R. Webb, a native of Blue township, has resided on his farm of 108 acres. He first worked on this farm for the former owner in 1867, and in the following year he purchased the land for \$25 an acre. He placed all of the existing improvements on the place, and has been offered \$200 an acre for the farm. A large orchard of 25 acres brings in a considerable revenue each year. Fourteen acres of this orchard are in cherries and peaches, plums, etc. Mr. Webb has fruit ripening in his orchards during the entire season. First comes his cherry



crop, then plums ripen, then peaches, and the last harvest takes care of the apple crop. During last season he sold nine bushels of green gage plums at \$1.50 per bushel; 23 bushels of red plums brought \$1.25 per bushel; ten bushels of Damons brought \$2.00 per bushel. Mr. Webb's planting is usually done in the fall of the year, because he has found that the sap comes early and the young trees get a better start in the ground if allowed to remain in the ground all winter. He always lays aside the top soil and places a layer of it around the roots of the young trees, so as to properly nourish the roots.

Mr. Webb was born in 1847, on the Rogers place, one-fourth mile west. He is a son of Allen and Peggy (Shelby) Webb, the latter of whom was a relative of Gen. Joe Shelby, of Civil War fame. Both of Mr. Webb's parents were natives of Tennessee. Allen Webb came to Jackson County with his parents, Joseph and Margaret Webb, in 1824. A brother of Allen Webb fought at the memorable Battle of The Alamo, and lost his life by the side of Davy Crockett, James Bowie and the other heroes who gave up their lives for the freedom of Texas on that occasion. The family of Joseph Webb was as follow: Asa, Allen, Joseph, Peggy, William and Nancy Rogers, all of whom are deceased.

Allen Webb was reared in Missouri, and was enrolled for service in the so-called Mormon War. He fought in the Seminole and other Indian wars, and also fought in the Civil War. In the spring of 1865 he was taken prisoner by the Federals, and taken to Warrensburg, where he was shot by the enraged Federals in retaliation for the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. He was one of the oldest soldiers in the Confederate Army, at the time of his death being 65 years of age. He was a thorough soldier, skilled in military tactics, and was eligible to pension from the government on account of having served in four Indian wars. Mrs. Peggy Webb died in 1879, at the age of 60 years. Allen and Peggy Webb were the parents of the following children: John, was a forty-niner, died at the home of his brother, J. R. Webb; Harris, deceased, was a captain under General Shelby, served for four years in the Civil War, was taken prisoner, exchanged at Vicksburg, and was never heard of afterwards; George, was killed at Salem Church; Mrs. Margaret Perry, deceased; James R., of this review; Mrs. Louisa Liggett, Springfield, Mo.; Mrs. Lizzie Searcy, Independence; Frank, died in Nebraska; Mollie, died at the age of 14; and Nannie, lives in Ohio.

James R. Webb enlisted in the Confederate Army, under Colonel Ervin, and Major Vivion, and served for two years. He took part

in Price's raid through Missouri, and was in the continuous fighting which took place during this raid. He fought daily all the way from Jefferson City to Westport, and during the subsequent retreat of Price's army to Newtonia, Ark. He surrendered at Shreveport, La. Mr. Webb was the youngest soldier of his regiment. He was among the first Confederates to follow the Union soldiers out of Independence, when the city was taken. At the battle of Rock Creek, a veritable slaughter occurred, over 2,000 militiamen from Kansas meeting death. He was detailed with a band of 2,000 to fight this battle, and only four Kansans escaped with their lives. These four Webb's command chased for a distance of five miles to the Union ranks, and were nearly ambushed themselves in their eagerness to capture or kill the four fleeing infantry men. Ten thousand Federal troops then chased the command over a road which was blocked with guns, dead bodies and fallen horses.

In 1869, James R. Webb was married to Josephine Adams, a daughter of Nelson Adams. She died in 1914, at the age of 56 years. He was again married Dec. 13, 1917, to Miss Fannie A. Liepsner, of New York City.

Mr. Webb is a stanch Democrat, a good citizen, and an interesting old timer, who has a vivid recollection of the old and troublous times in Jackson County.

**William A. Forsythe**, a prominent breeder and the owner and proprietor of Hedgewood Farm, one of the finest stock farms in Jackson County, which is located in Prairie township, has won a well merited reputation as one of the leading breeders and importers of Shorthorn cattle in the Southwest. The reputation of the Forsythe's herd of pure bred Shorthorns is by no means confined to Jackson County, nor Missouri. His stock has been successfully exhibited with flattering results at the State fairs of Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma, and for nearly 30 years he has been a successful breeder. His straight Scotch herd now numbers about 60 head. In 1919 he imported 10 head and in 1918 four head, all from the leading herds of Scotland.

Regular purebred sales are held at Hedgewood Farm and the stock always has a ready sale at satisfactory prices. Perhaps the most successful sale of purebred Shorthorn cattle in the history of western Missouri was held by William A. Forsythe and sons on their place near Greenwood, Dec. 12, 1919. Despite the fact that the weather was cold and disagreeable, buyers were there and results would indicate that they came to buy. There were 62 head of Shorthorns sold at this sale. The





W. A. Forsythe





average price paid per head was \$1,214 and the total proceeds of the sale was \$75,300. The highest price paid for one animal was \$4,750, which was paid for "Lady Supreme", winner of first prize for cows at the American Royal Stock Show at Kansas City. Park Salter, of Wichita, Kan., was the buyer of this superior animal. The Forsythes are entitled to much credit for not only making a great business success of breeding, but vast improvement of the standard of live stock in this country is being rapidly advanced by such progressive breeders as the Forsythes.

William A. Forsythe was born in Mercer County, Ky., May 2, 1861, and is a son of Robert B. and Mary Elizabeth (Irvine) Forsythe, who were the parents of two children: Betty L. married Lee Hilligoss and is now a widow residing at Pleasant Hill, Mo. and William A., the subject of this sketch. Both parents were also natives of Mercer County, Ky. The father was born May 21, 1824, and died in Jackson County, Nov. 18, 1894. His wife was born Jan. 21, 1836 and died April 27, 1898 in Jackson County. The Forsythe family came to Jackson County in 1880 and here the father engaged in farming and stock raising and both he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives here.

William A. Forsythe was reared and educated in Mercer County, Ky. and was about 18 years of age, when he came to Jackson County with his parents. He managed the home place for a time and later bought land and is now the owner of 680 acres, which is known as Hedgewood Farm and is one of the valuable places of Jackson County.

June 6, 1883, Mr. Forsythe was united in marriage with Miss Mattie McKittrick, a daughter of James McKittrick, whose wife bore the maiden name of Miss McMurray. They were natives of Ohio and early settlers in Jackson County. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Forsythe, as follows: Edwin J., Worland, Wy.; Katherine, at home; John A., commercial head of Forsythe and Sons, with general offices at Pleasant Hill; and Eugene, who is assisting his father in the operation of Hedgewood Farm.

Mr. Forsythe is not only a student of the live stock industry from the successful breeder's standpoint but he is a close observer and clear thinker along general lines. He is a strong advocate of soil conservation, a subject which is arresting the attention of the most highly enlightened and progressive agriculturist of today. He believes that to maintain the fertility of the soil that more stock should be kept on the farm; that more of the product of the soil should be fed on the place and that by this method instead of the soil becoming more and more impoverished from

year to year that the reverse will be true and soil fertility will be increased. The wisdom of this theory is obvious and should serve as a warning to the present day farmer.

Mr. Forsythe is a Democrat and a member of the Presbyterian church and is a member of the time-honored Masonic lodge. He is a progressive citizen, a man of original ideas, who has a wide acquaintance over the country and who stands high in the estimation of his fellow men.

**Jerry Johnson**, a well known farmer and breeder, of Van Buren township, is a native of this State. He was born in Morgan County, Mo., Jan. 1, 1861, a son of Jerry and Mary T. (Hannon) Johnson. The father died here at the age of 24 years, in 1860, a few months before the subject of this sketch was born. Mary T. Hammon was a native of Missouri, born in Morgan County. After the death of her first husband she married Charles Litsinger, a native of Ohio, and a pioneer school teacher of Jackson County. He taught the first school in Crackerneck district, Blue township. Two children were born to Charles Litsinger and Mary Hannon Johnson Litsinger, as follows: Mrs. Fannie V. Jobe, Sherman, Texas, and Grace Lee, married J. S. Carlyle, a prominent educator of McKenney, Texas. The mother died in 1869, at the age of 78 years.

Jerry Johnson was educated in the public schools of Blue township, Jackson County, and also attended the public schools in Indiana and Hickory County, Mo. He began life as a farmer in Jackson County, and has been continually engaged in farming and stock raising to the present time, with the exception of the period from 1897 to 1903, when he was the head janitor of the court house at Independence. He was the first person to ring the bell on the new court house. This was when the United States declared war against Spain, in 1898. Mr. Johnson bears the distinction of having been one of the first passengers to ride over the Missouri Pacific railroad from Pleasant Hill to Independence, this was in 1865, and he was about four years of age at that time. The Johnson family is an old American family. Mr. Johnson has in his possession a knife which was carried through the War of 1812 by Jerry Johnson, a great-uncle of his.

June 19, 1889, Jerry Johnson was married to Miss Mary E. Ritter, a native of Jackson County and a daughter of pioneer parents. She was born in Prairie township Dec. 17, 1866, and is a daughter of H. T. and Mary M. (Taylor) Ritter, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Boone County, Mo. They were the parents of ten children of whom



Mrs. Johnson is the eighth in order of birth. The Ritter family was among the very early settlers in Jackson County. They came here about 1833. H. T. Ritter was a farmer and stock raiser and spent his entire life here except during the Civil War while Order No. 11 was in force, when he went to Texas, but returned to Jackson County in 1866. He served in the Confederate army for a short time under General Upton Hayes and was at the battle of Rock Creek, near Westport.

To Jerry Johnson and wife have been born three children as follows: Telfer, deceased; Jennie Belle, married W. L. Merrit and they reside in Van Buren township; Henry Chrisman, a motorman for the Kansas City Street Railway Company and at present employed on the Independence and Kansas City line.

Mr. Johnson is a Democrat and a member of the Baptist church. He has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for the past 40 years and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. He has seen Jackson County grow up and for considerably more than half a century he has been a part of its progress and development.

**Ed F. Bracht.**—The Ever Eat Restaurant at 206 West Lexington street, Independence, Mo. is one of the most popular eating places in the city for several reasons, chiefly because Mr. Bracht, the proprietor, is one of the best cooks in the country who prepares appetizing meals which are appreciated by hundreds of patrons. The service in the Ever Eat cafe is first class and the charges for meals and short orders are well within the means of the average person. Mr. Bracht does not believe in profiteering, but he has always made it a rule to give each and every patron the full worth of his money.

Ed F. Bracht, proprietor of the Ever Eat restaurant or cafe, was born near Freedom, Mo., Oct. 23, 1880. He is a son of William and Louise (Gaynor) Bracht, both of whom were reared to the life of the farm. William Bracht was born in 1844, immigrated to America from his native country in about 1862, followed farming during his life and died in 1902. His wife, Louise, was a daughter of Frank Gaynor, of Gasconade County, who served in the Civil War with the Union forces. Louise Bracht was born in Missouri in 1855 and departed this life in 1903. The Bracht family moved to Lawrence County, Mo., in 1893 and there followed farming. There were five sons and three daughters born to William and Louise Bracht, as follows: Amanda, wife of Frank Kiso, Slater, Mo.; Caroline, wife of Gus Detmer, Sedalia, Mo.; Talita, whose husband is a physician in Kansas City, Mo.; Frank, an extensive farmer in Lawrence County,

Mo.; August, Nevada, Mo., was killed by lightning; Henry, a sheep rancher in North Dakota; Louis, a farmer in Lawrence County, Mo.; and Ed F., of this review.

Ed F. Bracht remained at home and assisted his father on the farm until he attained his majority. He then engaged in business at Hawarden, Iowa, for three years. In 1904 he became a cook and soon afterwards came to Independence where he was in the employ of Piser Brothers who conducted the largest restaurant in the city for a number of years. From 1916 to 1919 he was employed at Sheffield, Mo. On Dec. 13, 1918, he purchased a restaurant on the east side of the square in Independence and in August, 1919, he bought the building in which his cafe is now located and has been doing a prosperous and ever increasing business. In fact, the trade is so heavy at times in the Ever Eat Cafe that it takes Mr. Bracht and his assistants to care for it properly.

Mr. Bracht was married in 1912 to Hannah Stratton of Independence, a daughter of Henry and Catherine Stratton, residing on South Main street. Mr. and Mrs. Stratton have the following children: Mrs. Anna Bauer, Hermann, Mo.; Edward, at home; Mrs. Hannah Bracht, of this review; Mrs. Pauline Street, Independence; Mrs. Julia Streibel, Independence; Ella, Wilma and Estelle, at home with their parents.

To Ed F. and Hannah Bracht have been born two children: Edward, born March 13, 1914; and Aline, born July 12, 1917. Mr. Bracht is an independent Republican. The family church is the Evangelical. He ranks with the truly successful business men of Independence whose success has been due to hard work and good management.

**A. O. Shoup**, proprietor of Shoup's Grocery, 814 North Liberty street, Independence, Mo., was born in Carroll County, Mo., and is a son of George and Sylvia Shoup, the former of whom is deceased, and the latter resides at Stockton, Texas.

George Shoup, the father, was born in Putnam County, Ohio, March 10, 1849, and died March 2, 1916, from injuries received in a motor truck accident. In 1863 he accompanied his parents to Indiana, where he attained young manhood, and was married to Sylvia Hasler. Soon after his marriage he moved westward to Carroll County, Mo. Mr. Shoup was the inventor of the Little Giant Well Driller, a machine which was used in the drilling of over 1,500 wells in Ray County, Mo. The children of the Shoup family are: Archie O., of this sketch; Mrs. Dollie Ketzler, Texas; Mrs. Minnie West, San Angelo, Texas; Mrs. Charles Schultz, Fort Stockton, Texas.



Archie O. Shoup learned the baker's trade when a young man, and followed his trade in this city for a number of years, following which he carried the mail on Rural Route No. 6 for nine years. He is now employed as assistant engineer at the power house at Sugar Creek. His wife, Mrs. Susie Shoup, manages the store, which they purchased Feb. 1, 1918.

Mr. Shoup was married Feb. 22, 1900, to Miss Susie Angell, a daughter of William W. and Jeanette (Hamilton) Shoup, who reside at 922 North Main street, Independence. William W. Angell followed contracting in this city for 35 years, and is now retired.

Harry Angell, his son, follows the business of contractor and plasterer. Mr. Angell plastered the court house, Masonic hall, the Bryant school, and many other important buildings in the city. He is now aged 67 years. Mrs. Angell is 65 years old. Hezekiah Hamilton, grandfather of Mrs. A. O. Shoup, came to Randolph County, Mo., when a child, was reared there, and became a large land owner, the town of Clark being located on what was formerly the Hamilton farm. Mr. Hamilton attained the age of 85 years, and died in 1914. Mrs. Elsie Hasler, grandmother of Mrs. Shoup, resides at Grain Valley, and although past 95 years of age, she does her own house work. She is an expert bread baker. Mrs. Hasler is a native of Pennsylvania, and came from Indiana to Carroll County, residing there until about 15 years ago, when she moved to Grain Valley.

A. O. and Susie Shoup have two children, Jinnette and Sylvia Belle Shoup.

**Archibald Anderson Stayton**, now residing on his farm in Prairie township, is a worthy representative of one of Jackson County's prominent pioneer families, and is of the third generation of the Staytons who have been identified with the history of Jackson County.

Archibald Anderson Stayton was born in Blue township, Jackson County, July 9, 1860. He is a son of Thomas and Jane (Medows) Stayton, and was one of the following children born to them: John I., deceased; Thomas A., lives in Idaho; Mrs. Susan R. Graycraft, lives in Cass County; Sally, married John Elsey, and is deceased; Archibald A., the subject of this sketch; James A., deceased, and Ruth, deceased. The mother of these children died about 1870, and the father was married again, to Mrs. Matilda (Corn) Helms, a widow, and to this union the following children were born: Col. Edward M., a civil engineer, who served in the World War, and saw service in France, and a biographical sketch of whom appears in this volume; Charles C., lives in Montana, and Betty is deceased.



Thomas Stayton was born in Tennessee about 1827. His parents moved from Tennessee to Kentucky, and from there to Missouri. He was a son of John Stayton, who upon coming to this county, settled upon the Lexington highway. Later he bought land on the Blue Springs road, where he erected a large brick house, after the style of the early day planter's home, and here reared a family of ten children, and he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives there. Thomas Stayton followed farming throughout his life, and was the owner of 240 acres of land east of Independence, where he died in 1878, at the age of 58 years.

Archibald Anderson Stayton remained on the home farm until he was about 18 years of age, when he and his brother, Thomas, engaged in farming in partnership, which they continued until 1882, when they dissolved partnership and divided their interests, and Archibald A. became the sole owner of the land which has since been his home, and where he has successfully carried on farming and stock raising.

May 12, 1886, Mr. Stayton was united in marriage with Miss Nannie B. Winborn, a native of Kentucky. To Mr. and Mrs. Stayton have been born two children, as follows: Golden E., married C. Steele, Scammon, Kan.; and Sally, married L. M. Munsen, and they also reside at Scammon.

Mr. Stayton is a Democrat, and a member of the Knights of Pythias. He has seen Jackson develop from almost a primitive state to become one of the populous sections of the country. He recalls the time when Indians from the nearby reservations frequently prowled around the vicinity of the Stayton home, and has a distinct recollection of one occasion when he was at home caring for his youngest sister, who was a babe in the cradle, when Indians came, and asked for "roosters and onions." Young Stayton was very much frightened at the sight of the so-called noble red men, and this incident made a lasting impression on his mind.

**William A. Smith**, of Greenwood, Mo., has long been recognized as a prominent factor in both the agricultural and financial interest of this section of the state. His career from the beginning has been marked by success. For many years he was extensively engaged in farming and stock raising and is now the owner of 770 acres of land which constitutes one of the valuable farms of Jackson County. It is located in Prairie township and is now being operated by Jesse L. Smith, son of William A. For many years Mr. Smith was an extensive breeder of Aberdeen Angus cattle but closed out his herd in 1917. Several years ago he became interested in the banking business and was one of the charter members of the Farmers Bank of Lees Summit and also the Bank of Greenwood. He

holds stock in several banks throughout Missouri, Kansas, New Mexico and Arkansas.

William A. Smith was born in Macoupin County, Ill., Sept. 1, 1857, and is the son of Jesse A. and Selah B. (Roach) Smith. Eight children were born to them, as follows: L. P., deceased; Carrie, now the widow of W. A. Wilson, residing at Belton, Texas; William A., the subject of this sketch; C. H., deceased; G. W., Denison, Texas; B. F., Marionville, Mo.; Annie, died in infancy, and Myrtle, married W. I. Kipp, Fort Scott, Kan. Jesse A. Smith was born in Kentucky in 1834 and from his native state went to Illinois and in 1869 came to Missouri with his family and located at Greenwood, Jackson County. Here he engaged in farming and stock raising and was later engaged in buying and shipping livestock; he died in 1904 at the age of 70 years. His wife was a native of Tennessee and died in Jackson County, Dec. 25, 1885, at the age of 54 years.

William A. Smith was about 12 years old when he came to Jackson County with his parents in 1869; he received his education in the public schools in Illinois and also attended school at Greenwood, Mo. after coming to this state. He was married before he was 20 years of age and began his independent career as a farmer and stockman and was successful from the start. He early recognized that feeding cattle for the market was one of the most profitable phases of farming and the stock business and for over 40 years he was engaged in that business and accumulated a fortune. He always worked hard and gave his business strict attention—never depending upon so called fate or lucky accidents. In 1910 he erected a large modern brick residence in Greenwood which is one of the fine homes of Jackson County.

Oct. 2, 1876, William A. Smith was united in marriage with Jennie A. Maddox, a native of Kentucky and a daughter of Larkin and Eveline (Belcher) Maddox, early settlers in Jackson County and both now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been born one son, Jesse L., who is now operating his father's farm. He was educated in the public schools and Wentworth Military School. He married June Gerard, a daughter of Dr. Gerard of Pleasant Hill, Mo., and they have three daughters.

William A. Smith is a Democrat. He is a member of the Baptist church and a trustee in the local congregation of that denomination.

Notwithstanding that Mr. Smith has been a hard worker and lived a strenuous business life he has been able to separate his work from his play and recreation, and is a great devotee to a certain class of outdoor sports. He is fond of hunting and fishing and when ever there is a fox



hunt of any particular interest in any part of the state he is generally numbered among those present. This is a trait which he inherited from his father who was also a great lover of the chase, and the sound of the pack was sweet music to him. Jesse L. Smith, like his father and grandfather, is also fond of hunting and fishing.

William A. Smith has had a successful career of which any man may be justly proud. He is progressive and public spirited and one of Jackson County's highly esteemed citizens.

**William W. Talley**, a progressive farmer and stockman of Prairie township, who owns and operates 100 acres of productive land, is a native son of this county, and a descendant of Jackson County pioneers. The Talley family came from Kentucky to Jackson County, settling here as early as 1832. This was an early day in the settlement of this county and since that time the Talley family has been identified with the great growth and development of Jackson County.

William W. Talley was born in Prairie township on the farm where he now resides, Jan. 6, 1858. He is a son of David and Mary (Fristoe) Talley, natives of Kentucky. Further details of the history of the Talley family appear in connection with the sketch of Spencer L. Talley in this volume.

To David and Mary (Fristoe) Talley were born 10 children as follow: Mrs. John Fristoe is now deceased; Richard, deceased; Thomas, deceased; Ruse, married William Garnhart, now deceased; Charles H., resides at Hickman Mills; Polly married C. Neal and lives in Jackson County; Spencer L., a sketch of whom appears in this volume; Sally, married Mart Fristoe and resides at Grain Valley; William W., the subject of this sketch; and Katie, deceased.

William W. Talley was reared and educated in Jackson County. He spent his early life on the home farm and has always made farming and stock raising his chief occupation and has met with success.

In February, 1880, William W. Talley was united in marriage with Miss Mollie Evans, a native of Kentucky. She is a daughter of Bart Evans and her mother bore the maiden name of Frances Tucker. They were early settlers in Jackson County and came here from Kentucky. To Mr. and Mrs. Talley have been born four children as follow: Claudine, married Percy Robinson, Pleasant Hill; Frank, Raytown; Waller, Lees Summit, and Artie, married Fred Garder, Prairie Home township.

Mr. Talley is a Democrat. He takes an active interest in local affairs and is the present road overseer of his district. He is a member of the Christian church.





WILLIAM TALLEY.



**William Lee Ragsdale**, a leading farmer and stockman of Van Buren township is a native of Missouri and a member of one of the pioneer families of this state. He was born near Columbus, Johnson County, Feb. 9, 1864, a son of Dr. Edward and Elizabeth (Easley) Ragsdale, and was one of five children born to them, as follows: Lulu, married M. C. Wither- spoon and is now deceased; William Lee, the subject of this sketch; Anna E., married Z. W. Yankee, Lone Jack, Mo.; Dr. Edward W., a physician and surgeon, La Junta, Col., and Dr. Thomas J., a physician and surgeon at Lees Summit, Mo.

Dr. Edward Ragsdale was born in Bedford County, Tenn., July 30, 1837, and died July 25, 1916. He was a son of Edward Ragsdale, who was a native of Tennessee and spent the latter part of his life in Holt County, Mo. He was an extensive cattle man.

Dr. Edward Ragsdale worked hard to obtain his education, working for 25 cents per day at farm labor, and finally borrowed money from a Mr. Ridings to pay his way through college. After obtaining a good preliminary education he attended the Polk Medical School of St. Louis and afterwards attended medical college in Philadelphia, Pa., where he was graduated with the degree of the Doctor of Medicine. This was prior to the Civil War and he located at Lone Jack before the Civil War came on and practiced his profession there during the war. He was one of the widely known pioneer physicians of this section of Missouri. He was a profound student of this profession and successful, and had a wide reputation as a skilled physician. He retired from practice in 1912 and moved to Lees Summit, where he died July 25, 1916. His wife died in 1918. She was a native of Jackson County, born in 1835.

William Lee Ragsdale was reared at Lone Jack and educated in the public schools there, when he was about 18 years old his father moved to the farm where William L. now resides, which consists of 300 acres. Mr. Ragsdale has made farming and stock raising his life's work and is one of the successful and practical farmers and stockmen of Jackson County.

April 14, 1912, William Lee Ragsdale was united in marriage with Miss Iva Round, a native of Jackson County and a daughter of John E. and Mollie (Cave) Round early settlers of Jackson County. To Mr. and Mrs. Ragsdale have been born two children, Lee E. and Thomas E.

Mr. Ragsdale has been a life long Democrat and is one of Jackson County's enterprising and public spirited citizens.



**John T. Bynum.**—Every community owes much to the pioneers who laid the foundation and made possible a better place for future generations to live and Jackson County is no exception to the rule. The Bynum family are justly entitled to the credit to being numbered amongst Jackson County's very early permanent pioneer settlers; they have been identified with Jackson County since 1836.

John T. Bynum, whose name introduces this sketch, was born in Van Buren township on the farm which he now owns and where he resides, Nov. 3, 1859. He is a son of John and Charlotte (Cave) Bynum, and is the youngest of six children born to them and the only one now living.

John Bynum, father of John T. Bynum, was a native of Tennessee and came to Jackson County in 1836 with his parents. He engaged in farming and spent the remainder of his life in the vicinity of Lone Jack and was one of the worthy pioneers of this county. He was known throughout eastern Jackson County among his many friends and acquaintances as "Uncle Jack". He was a public spirited Christian gentleman of the old school. He was an ardent church worker and was one of the organizers of the Christian church of Lone Jack. He became the owner of 200 acres of land the ownership of which fell to John T. at his father's death, June 20, 1897 in his seventy-sixth year. His wife who was a native of North Carolina, died Oct. 6, 1905 at the age of 89 years.

John T. Bynum was reared on the farm where he now resides and attended the district school in Van Buren township. He has followed farming and stock raising and has been successful in his undertakings. He recalls many incidents of the days when the pioneer methods of agriculture were in practice; when oxen were the principal motor power on the farm, and he has driven oxen many times in the early days.

Mr. Bynum was married March 25, 1888, to Miss Clarice Clements, a native of Kentucky, born Aug. 1, 1868, and died May 16, 1899. To John T. and Clarice Bynum were born five children as follows: Brittie, married R. Adams of Van Buren township and has one child, Delma; Benjamin, deceased; Lawrence C. resides on the home place; Margaret, married M. A. Bennett, resides on the home place and has two children, Clarice and John C.; and Eula M. married John Wilkerson, Johnson County, Mo.

Mr. Bynum was married the second time, Aug. 27, 1913 to Mrs. Lila Phelps Burns, a native of Illinois. No children have been born to this union.

Mr. Bynum is a Democrat and has always taken a good citizens interest in political matter. In 1913 he was appointed road overseer and

is now serving his fifth term in that capacity. His appointment to this position is a very appropriate one as he is a strong advocate of good roads and knows how to build them.

**James B. Colton**, a leading farmer and stockman of Washington township, has been identified with the agricultural interests of Jackson County since early manhood. Mr. Colton was born in Crawford County, Pa., Nov. 27, 1863, and is a son of James B. and Mary (Eckert) Colton, and is the youngest of a family of seven children born to them. James B. Colton was born in Pennsylvania and his wife was a native of New York state. They came to Jackson County with their family in 1878 and located at Hickman's Mill and here spent the remainder of their lives. The father was a carpenter and worked at his trade practically all his life.

James B. Colton spent his early boyhood in his native state and was educated in the public schools of Erie, Pa. He was about 15 years of age when he came to Jackson County with his parents and began life in this county farming rented land. Later he bought a farm and now owns 160 acres of valuable and well improved land where he is successfully carrying on general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Colton was united in marriage May 19, 1890, with Miss Cora A. Miller, a native of Bedford, Ind. She is a daughter of Simpson and Mary A. (Mathews) Miller who settled in Jackson County in 1884. The father is now deceased and the mother resides with Mr. and Mrs. Colton. To James B. Colton and wife have been born three children as follows: Paul, at home with his parents; George, a farmer and stockman in Washington township and Nellie, a teacher in the public schools in Martin City, Mo.

Mr. Colton is a Republican and he and Mrs. Colton are members of the Christian church. He is a progressive and enterprising citizen and takes a commendable interest in public affairs.

**Calvin S. Shore**, a well known citizen of Van Buren township and owner of 160 acres of land is a native of Missouri. He was born in Lafayette County, Feb. 24, 1856, and is the son of Samuel R. and Zerelda (Parent) Shore, who were the parents of 14 children, five of whom are living.

Samuel R. Shore was born in North Carolina, April 1, 1820, and came to Missouri when he was 15 years old. He died in Jackson County in 1911. His wife was also a native of North Carolina and they were married Oct. 21, 1840. She was born Nov. 11, 1820 and died June 6, 1896.

Calvin S. Shore was educated in the public schools of Lafayette County, attending the high school at Chapel Hill. Since early boyhood



he has been actively engaged in the cattle business and has had a wide experience in that line. When a boy he and his brother Stephen went to the southern part of Missouri where they were engaged in the cattle business together. In early life he owned a farm in western Kansas and herded cattle in that state and on the plains of Colorado. Before coming to Jackson County he owned land in Lafayette and Cass counties, Mo. He came to Jackson County in 1896 and purchased his present farm of 160 acres and since coming here has made many improvements on the place. For a number of years he was also interested in raising Percheron horses and took particular pride in this department of animal husbandry. His sons are now carrying on the farming operations and his son Roy is conducting the dairy business and also raises a great many standard bred brown leghorn chickens.

Mr. Shore was married Jan. 28, 1880, to Miss Illabelle Wood, a native of Knox County, Ohio, born Dec. 27, 1858. She is a daughter of John and Julia A. (Sims) Wood, natives of Virginia and Ohio, respectively. They came to Missouri and settled in Lafayette County in 1877 and later moved to Pleasant Hill where they both died. To Mr. and Mrs. Calvin S. Shore have been born nine children as follows: Harvey; Carol; May, a teacher; Frank; Roy; Les; Charles; Mark and William E. All the children are residing at home with their parents excepting Frank, who resides at Florence, Colo. and William E., who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Shore and family are members of the Baptist church and he is a Democrat.

**Edward M. Stayton** was born on the old Thomas Stayton farm two miles southeast of Independence, Sept. 4, 1874. He spent the early part of his life here, obtaining his early education in the nearby district school and in the high school at Independence. In 1892 he entered the Missouri State University where he took a special course in Civil Engineering and also took an active part in the military department of the University. He had enlisted in Company F, Third Missouri Infantry, Feb. 9, 1891, and had received quite a little preliminary training in the company. On entering the University he was given an opportunity to show his ability in handling a squad of recruits. In a short while he was promoted to first sergeant and in the middle of the year became sergeant major of the battalion. In the fall of 1894 he was made first lieutenant of Company A, and in the absence of the captain of that company was its commander. In December a vacancy among the captains occurred and he was promoted to the grade of captain in recognition of the ability he had shown.





COL. E. M. STAYTON



The first important engineering work he did was on the construction of the Kansas City Southern Railway, beginning in January, 1895. He began this work as a rod man and was very soon promoted to instrument man and later resident engineer. Following this he was engaged in the construction of a branch of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway in Oklahoma; a part of the Kansas City, Mexico & Orient Railway in Oklahoma and Texas and the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway in Oklahoma.

In December, 1904, he went to Spanish Honduras where he located and built some industrial railroads for the handling of the products of several banana plantations and some heavy mahogany timber.

In 1907 he was employed by the Harriman syndicate to make surveys for some proposed railways in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, and later on investigations for betterments of the Central Georgia Railway in Alabama, Georgia and Florida. He spent a great deal of time in investigating the possibilities of a system of interurban railways out of Kansas City, participating in the final location and the construction of the existing interurbans from Kansas City to St. Joseph and to Excelsior Springs in 1911.

From 1911 to 1916 he was engaged in general consultation work, specializing in highways and railways. In 1916 by appointment of Governor Major he became Highway Engineer of Jackson County, which position he was able to hold but a few months, being called into military service for duty on the Mexican border.

In 1907 he contributed his services as commandant of cadets for Independence High School, which position he filled for two years. On June 15, 1910, he became Captain of Company F, Third Missouri Infantry and was transferred to the Missouri Artillery Battalion with his company Nov. 24, 1914 and was made major of artillery March 7, 1915.

On June 19, 1916, he was called into the Federal service and took his battalion to the Mexican border, where he remained on duty at Laredo until Dec. 24, when his battalion was returned to its home station. On July 20, 1917 he was transferred from the artillery to the Missouri Engineer's Corps and organized a battalion of engineers which he took into the Federal service on Aug. 5, 1917 for service in the World War.

The battalion went to Camp Doniphan for training, where it became a part of the 110th Engineers. This regiment arrived in France with the 35th Division, May 10, 1918, and went immediately to the front. The regiment participated in the Amiens occupation with the British, later the Vosages occupation with the French, the St. Mihiel offensive, the



Argonne offensive, the Verdun occupation and after the armistice, the building of the camp at Brest.

On arriving at St. Mihiel he was placed in command of his regiment and commanded it through the heavy service that was demanded of it during the remainder of its stay in France. While the division was engaged in the Argonne offensive, it became necessary for the engineers to take over the entire division front, owing to the serious losses the infantry had sustained. The line to be occupied was selected and its occupation superintended by Major Stayton, who was complimented for the prompt and skillful manner in which the position on Schadron Hill was occupied under the heavy shell fire. At the conclusion of the regiment's participation in the Argonne offensive, he was promoted to the grade of Lieutenant Colonel and continued on duty with his regiment and when the regiment was relieved from duty in France it was his privilege to bring the regiment back home to the magnificent welcome that was given them.

On July 26, 1898, Col. Stayton was married to Miss Estella Compton, who was raised on the farm adjoining his birth place and who had been his childhood playmate. One child, a son, George Edward Stayton, resulted from this union.

Col. Stayton became an Assoc. M. Am. Soc. C. E., Feb. 4, 1903, and was transferred to full membership in 1907. He also has memberships and is active in the affairs of several other professional societies.

He has always taken an active interest in the civil and business affairs of his home town. He participated in the organization of the Home Deposit Trust Company and has been one of its directors and vice-presidents since its organization. He is also very active in Masonic circles and is a member of the various Masonic bodies, including the Scottish Rite bodies and the Shrine of Kansas City. He held the various offices in Independence Lodge No. 76, and was its master.

On his return from France with his regiment he was discharged from service at Camp Funston and a few days after his return to his home was asked by the County Court of Clay County to take the position of Consulting Engineer for their system of 200 miles of paved road. He accepted this position and resumed the general practice of his profession with headquarters at Liberty.

When in December, 1919, the coal situation became serious on account of strikes, the State institutions being practically without coal and very little being available for domestic purposes and none at all for industrial purposes, the Governor of Missouri took over the coal mines of the

State for operation. Col. Stayton was immediately selected to go to Barton County as the superintendent of operations for the mines located in that part of the State. In a few hours after his arrival he had all of the mining property under military guard and had begun the distribution of the skilled labor necessary to begin the operation of the mines, and in 30 hours after his arrival, coal was being loaded. The strike ended in just a week after the governor's proclamation, but in that time the mines had been put in operation by the use of volunteer labor and had almost reached the point of normal production. Colonel Stayton was highly complimented by the governor and all concerned for the energetic and business like manner in which he took hold of a most difficult situation and produced results without any delay whatever. Adjutant General Harvey C. Clark in a letter conveying his own and the governor's appreciation for Colonel Stayton's work in this emergency, used these words:

"It is a great satisfaction to the governor to know that an officer of your exceptional ability and who has distinguished himself so remarkably in France was ready to answer the call of the State regardless of the personal sacrifice entailed. A state which numbers such soldiers among its citizens is most fortunate."

**Charles W. Brownfield**, a prominent farmer and stockman, and the owner of 80 acres of valuable land in Prairie township, is a native of Ohio. He was born in Adams County, Ohio, June 13, 1867, and is a son of William and Sarah (Wade) Brownfield. William Brownfield was born near Manchester, Adams County, Ohio, and came to Jackson County with his family in 1871. Here he engaged in farming and stock raising, and was one of the early successful breeders of Shorthorn cattle in this county. He died on his home farm here in 1891, at the age of 72 years. His wife was a native of Virginia. She died in 1893, in her 65th year. They were the parents of the following children: Samuel, deceased; Joseph, who was a soldier in the Civil War, deceased; Randolph, deceased; William, resides in Kansas City, Kan.; Albert, Stockton, Cedar County, Mo.; Anna, married John Muse, and is now a widow, residing at Greenwood, Mo.; Lizzie, married James Belcher, Prairie township; Mrs. Emma Walker, Kansas City, Kan.; Oliver, Independence; Charles W., the subject of this sketch; and Oda, resides at Greenwood, Mo.

Charles W. Brownfield was about four years of age when his parents settled in Jackson County in 1871. He was reared on the farm and received his education in the public schools of Jackson County. His early training was along the line of farming and stock raising, and he has de-



voted himself to this line of work and has been successful. He bought his present farm in Prairie township in 1908 and at that time paid \$100 an acre for the same which was then considered a high price for farm land. He has made extensive improvements upon the place and has recently refused an offer of \$400 per acre, which goes to show that Mr. Brownfield made a wise investment and is the owner of one of Jackson County's valuable farms.

July 23, 1890, Charles Brownfield was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Beal, a native of Virginia. To Mr. and Mrs. Brownfield have been born ten children: Wade resides at home with his parents; Earl, Lone Jack, Mo.; Mrs. Jessie Jennings, Greenwood, Mo.; Hazel, a teacher in the public schools of Prairie township; and Charles, Allen, Delane, Mildred, Frances and Beal, all residing at home with their parents.

Mr. Brownfield is a Republican and a member of the Christian church and holds membership in the Modern Woodmen of America.

**Thomas J. Boten**, a progressive farmer and stockman of Prairie township is a native of Jackson County. He was born in Prairie township Nov. 14, 1883. His parents were Thomas and Emily (Lawrence) Boten, both natives of Missouri. Thomas Boten was born in Missouri. His parents both died when he was a child and he was reared in Platte County. During the Civil War he was employed as a freighter by the government. He followed farming and stock raising in Jackson County during his entire career he owned a farm of 120 acres southwest of Lees Summit and 145 acres northeast of Lees Summit. He was an industrious man and a good citizen and was quite successful in his undertakings, he died on his home farm in Jackson County in 1897, aged about 62 years. Emily (Lawrence) Boten, mother of Thomas J. Boten was born in Platte County, Mo. She died in 1912 at the age of 65 years.

Thomas and Emily (Lawrence) Boten were the parents of seven children as follows: Charles, Prairie township; William L., Blue township; Edward, Johnson County, Mo.; John O. resides on the old homestead in Prairie township; Dora, also resides on the home place; Thomas J., the subject of this sketch and Oscar lives in Prairie township.

Thomas J. Boten was reared on his fathers farm in Prairie township and received his education in the district school and the public schools of Lees Summit, he remained at home with his parents until he was 21 years of age when he began his independent career as a farmer on rented land. In 1911 he purchased his present place which is now a well improved farm of 80 acres of valuable and productive Jackson County land. Since purchasing this place Mr. Boten has made extensive improvements includ-





MR. AND MRS. T. J. BOTEN.



ing a modern and attractive bungalow. Mr. Boten spent some time in South Dakota where he owned 240 acres of land before purchasing his present place.

In February, 1906, Thomas J. Boten was united in marriage with Olive Vance, a native of Iowa, and to this union three children were born, as follows: Dorotha, Bernice and Arthur.

Mr. Boten is a Democrat, and one of Jackson County's public spirited citizens. In 1912 Mr. Boten ran one of the first gas tractors in Jackson County, using it for his thrashing. His farm work is now carried on with a Fordson tractor.

**Isaac L. Maness**, well known merchant who is also engaged in farming and stock raising at Hicks City, Van Buren township, is a native of Missouri. He was born in Johnson County, Oct. 8, 1871, and is a son of William E. and Lydia A. (Carlyle) Maness and was one of eight children born to them, five of whom are now living. William E. Maness was born in McDonald County, March 17, 1848, a son of Lasus and Amanda (Kenney) Maness, natives of Tennessee and pioneer settlers of Missouri. Lydia A. (Carlyle) Maness, mother of Isaac L., was born in Ray County, Mo., April 2, 1850, and died in 1902. She was a daughter of Thomas Carlyle, whose wife was a Miss Lynn and they were both natives of Ohio and of English descent. They settled in Missouri at an early day and lived near Lexington for a time and later moved to Johnson County. William E. Maness settled in Jackson township, Johnson County, Mo., in 1868. The fact that he located here was more of an accident than a matter of choice, as at that time he was on his way back to Illinois with other members of the family when some of them were taken sick and were unable to proceed and thus they made Johnson County their home for some time.

Isaac L. Maness was reared on the home farm and attended the district school in the Elm Spring district and also the Washington school. In 1892 he began farming for himself in Johnson County. During his early experience he passed through the lean days of farming in the West. He has sold wheat which tested 62, for 36 to 40 cents per bushel, and during the course of his career he has bought corn for as low as 18 cents per bushel, and in 1919 he paid \$2.05 per bushel. Mr. Maness owns 160 acres of land in Jackson County and in 1905 he purchased the store at Hicks City, where he has since been engaged in the general mercantile business. He also buys and ships produce. His place of business is located in the heart of a rich agricultural district and during his 15 years in the mercantile business there, he has built up an extensive and profit-



able business and is recognized as one of Jackson County's successful business men.

April 17, 1898, Isaac L. Maness was united in marriage with Miss Anna M. Davis, a native of Johnson County, Mo., born near Columbus. Her parents were William Davis and a Miss Duthridge, both natives of the South where they were married. Although a Southern man, William Davis served in the Union army during the Civil War.

To Mr. and Mrs. Maness have been born the following children: Flora, married L. Gregg and lives in Johnson County; Violet married Ace Necessary of Jackson County; and Gladys and Mackie residing at home with their parents.

Mr. Maness is a member of the Baptist church and in his political views he is independent.

**Zachariah T. Perkins**, a well known and progressive farmer and stockman of Washington township, is a native son of Jackson County and a descendant of pioneers of this section of the state. He was born in Prairie township April 19, 1847, and is a son of Jesse G. and Mary Ann (Cook) Perkins, to whom were born four children as follows: Jemison, deceased; Susan Elizabeth Scovill, who is now a widow and resides at Lees Summit; Margaret Jane married Alonzo Wickman and is also now a widow, residing at Rockford, Ill.; and Zachariah T. whose name introduces this sketch.

Jesse G. Perkins, the father of Zachariah T., was born in North Carolina about 1814. He came to Jackson County in early manhood and was a very early settler in this part of Missouri. After coming here, he was married to Mary Ann Cook who was born in Jackson County in 1818. Her parents were pioneers of this section. She was a daughter of John Cook who, in the early days, owned the land at Independence which is now the fair grounds. He spent his life in this county and was a successful farmer and stockman. He died in 1853 and his wife departed this life in 1890, at the age of 72 years.

Zachariah T. Perkins was reared on a farm and received his early education in the district schools. He has been engaged in farming and stock raising since early life, and has resided on his present place for over 50 years, having settled here in 1868. He has seen much of the progress and development of Jackson County and recalls many pioneer incidents of the days before the Civil War.

Mr. Perkins was united in marriage Aug. 10, 1875, with Miss Mary Virginia Mansell, a native of Louisville, Ky. She came to Jackson County

with her parents, Edgar M. and Mary C. (McKinley) Mansell, when she was two years of age and has therefore been a resident of Jackson County practically all her life. Her father was a native of South Carolina and her mother of Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Perkins have no children.

Mr. Perkins is a Republican and has to his credit a long and honorable career in Jackson County, where he and Mrs. Perkins are highly regarded. During the Civil War he served for a time in the State militia.

**Edward C. Harrington**, secretary of the Independent Airless Tire Company, is a native of Canada, born at London, Ontario, Dec. 10, 1879. He is a son of Edgar and Harriet (Randall) Harrington. The father was a native of England and a son of an English physician. He learned the trade of shipbuilder in his native land and when a young man went to Canada. He came to Jackson County, Mo. in 1903 and spent the remainder of his life here in retirement. He died in 1910, aged 78 years, and his wife died in 1905. Their remains are buried in Mound Grove cemetery.

Edward C. Harrington was educated in the public schools of Kansas City, Kan., Central Business College and Spaulding's Commercial College. When he was about 16 years old, he entered the office of the Campbell Glass and Paint Company as office boy. One year later he went with the Phil R. Toll Box Company in a similar capacity. He remained with this company until 1902, having been promoted from one position of responsibility to another, until he was superintendent. In 1902, he became auditor for the Badger Lumber Company, with main offices at Kansas City, Mo. He remained with this company until 1905, when he went with the Independent Sash, Door and Lumber Company and later became secretary, treasurer and general manager. In August, 1911, Mr. Harrington engaged in the insurance business and in October, 1918, he became secretary of the Independent Airless Tire Company.

The Independent Airless Tire Company was organized in the fall of 1918, with a capital stock of \$75,000. The organization was completed in January, 1919, with the following officers: J. E. Bridges, president; Eben Miller, vice-president; and E. C. Harrington, secretary. The product of this factory is meeting with a popular demand which has insured the success of the enterprise from the start. The first tire was produced July 12, 1919, and at the present time the output of the factory for the next six months is sold.

The tire is made by mixing pure rubber with a composition invented by Roselle, some years ago. The result is 75% rubber and 25% composition, which gives strength and added elasticity. The new product is a



filler used inside the usual casing, forced on by machinery made for the purpose. When installed, and the tubes are sold installed, there is no more trouble until the casing wears out, and the casing may wear full of holes, and still the tires will give good service. The manufacturers guarantee twice the mileage when these fillers are used and reason that the tire has paid for itself, wherein two sets of casings are worn out, and still the filler is as good as new. The tube when finished looks like red rubber. It is perforated at regular intervals, giving elasticity and strength. In the manufacture of these fillers, the pure gum is fed between two heavy rolls and mixed thoroughly with the composition. The resulting piece is something of the shape and size of a cowhide. This is sent through a machine and compressed with terrific pressure into a round piece an inch and a half in diameter. This in turn goes into a mould under a 1900 pound pressure and is moulded into the proper shape, after which it is cooked for two hours. The fillers are then seasoned for several days and are ready for use. The machines are operated by a 50 horse power electric motor. A large boiler furnished the steam for cooking and a pump holds the material under 1,900 power pressure. The whole process is as nearly automatic as possible.

Edward C. Harrington was united in marriage June 30, 1904, with Miss Nellie May Hidy, of Independence, Mo. She is a daughter of George and Addie (White) Hidy. Her mother is now deceased and her father resides in Kansas City, Mo. To Mr. and Mrs. Harrington have been born three children, as follows: Phillip R., now a student in the Independence High School, who has made an excellent record in scholarship; William Howard, and Richard Lee.

Mr. Harrington takes a commendable interest in public affairs and served as a member of the city council from 1908 to 1910. He is an alert and progressive business man and is one of Jackson County's valued citizens.

**Howard Lindsay**, now deceased, was for many years identified with the business interests of Jackson County, and during the course of his career was widely known and highly respected throughout this section of the State. He was born in Kenton County, Ky., Dec. 24, 1851, and died at Grandview, Mo., Aug. 20, 1919. He was a son of David and Malvina (Grigsby) Lindsay, natives of Kentucky. The Lindsay family came to Jackson County in 1872, and settled on a farm near Kansas City, in the vicinity of what is now the Country Club district. Later the parents moved to Belton, Mo., where they both spent the remainder of their lives.





HOWARD LINDSAY.



Howard Lindsay was educated by private instructors, and never attended the public schools a day in his life. In early life he engaged in farming and stock raising, and owned 180 acres of land in the southeastern part of Washington township. He was successful in his farming operations, and became an extensive breeder of Poland China hogs. He had a well improved and valuable farm, which he sold in 1911, and engaged in the hardware business, in partnership with his brother-in-law, Harvey Vest, at Grandview, Mo. He was engaged in this business until the time of his death.

Mr. Lindsay was a Democrat, and prominent in the councils of his party, and was elected a member of the State Legislature, serving in the 1902-1903 session of the General Assembly. He was a devout member of the Baptist church, and took a keen interest in religious work, giving liberally of his time and money to the cause of Christianity. He was a Mason, and prominent in lodge circles.

Feb. 29, 1876, Howard Lindsay was united in marriage with Miss Katie Vest, a native of Galletin County, Ky., and a daughter of Thomas K. and Emily (Crowe) Vest, both natives of Kentucky, and early settlers in Jackson County, Mo., coming here about 1873. Mrs. Lindsay is a relative of the late United States Senator George Vest. She is an estimable lady, and held in the highest esteem in the community.

**O. H. Gentry, Jr.**, sheriff of Jackson County, and a member of the firm of Pendleton and Gentry, druggists, was born in Prairie township, this county. He is a son of Joseph H. and Mary (Henley) Gentry, natives of Bourbon County, Ky., who settled in Jackson County in the early fifties. O. H. Gentry, Jr., is descended from one of the old and prominent American families. His progenitors fought in the American Revolution under General Washington, enlisting in the Continental army from Virginia. His grandmother was a Miss Tribble, prior to her marriage with O. H. Gentry's grandfather, and she was a niece of Daniel Boone.

Joseph H. Gentry developed a farm four miles south of Raytown, Jackson County, Mo. and when Order No. 11 was issued he removed with his family to Kentucky, where his death occurred in 1863 at the age of 32 years. In her old age, Mrs. Gentry made her home with O. H. Gentry, Jr., and died at the age of 83 years. The other children of the family, besides O. H. Gentry are: Alonzo H., deceased, went to Colorado when a young man and engaged in the cattle business, served as sheriff of Otero County, Col. and after a residence there of a quarter century he



returned to Jackson County and died here at the age of 62 years; Joseph H., Independence, Mo.; R. A., Independence, Mo.

O. H. Gentry, Jr., was educated in the public schools and the State University at Columbia, Mo. and took up the study of pharmacy after engaging in business in Independence and graduated from the Philadelphia School of Pharmacy in 1882. He worked his way through college. Upon his return to his home county he organized the drug firm of Pendleton and Gentry in July, 1882. His first partner was J. C. Pendleton, who was later succeeded by his brother, Fleming Pendleton in 1888.

Mr. Gentry was married May 19, 1884 to Emma F. Robertson of Saline County, Mo., a daughter of Walter and Mary (Harl) Robertson, both of whom were natives of Kentucky and pioneers of Saline County. Three children have been born to this marriage: Alonzo H. Gentry, an architect, Cleveland, Ohio; Walter R. Gentry, was a registered pharmacist in business at New Haven, Conn., died in 1918; Mary Overton Gentry, wife of L. L. Shaw, Germantown, Pa. The Gentry family residence is located at 203 South Main street.

Mr. Gentry was elected treasurer of Jackson County three times and served three terms in this office. In 1916 he was elected sheriff of the county and is serving his first term in this position.

**Edmond L. Adams**, farmer and stockman, owner of 237 acres of land in the Blue bottoms near Atherton, was born on the Adams home place in the Blue bottoms, Blue township, in 1871. He is a son of William C. Adams of Atherton and the grandson of Lynchburg Adams, the first pioneer settler of Jackson County, who, 100 years ago (1820), settled on the banks of the Missouri River. William C. Adams, father of Edmond L. Adams, is the oldest living native born pioneer of Jackson County. Biographies of both William C. and Lynchburg Adams appear in this volume.

E. L. Adams was reared on his father's farm in Jackson County, and was educated in the district school, the Independence public and high school and Morrisville College. He has always followed the vocation of his forefathers and has been successful in all of his undertakings. His first farm, after he began on his own account, was a place three miles north of Atherton. After a residence of seven years on this place he removed to the Adams home place and farmed it for some years. He purchased his present home place of 80 acres in 1912. He paid for this land, \$200 an acre and which is now worth over \$300 an acre. In fact, Mr. Adams has refused an offer of \$300 an acre for the land, which is one of the richest

tracts in Missouri. In the fall of 1919 he purchased 157 acres from Mr. Hifner for \$170 an acre.

In December, 1899, Mr. Adams was married to Miss Margaret Keithley. This marriage has been blessed with children as follow: Francis, born June 20, 1901; Harry, born Dec. 25, 1902; Melvin, born Nov. 10, 1911. The mother of the foregoing children was born on a farm in the Blue bottoms, Oct. 10, 1879 and is a daughter of O. O. and Emma Katherine (Samples) Keithley, who reside in Atherton. O. O. Keithley was born in 1851 and came to Jackson County from Vernon County, Mo., soon after his marriage in the early seventies. Mrs. Emma K. Keithley was born in Kentucky in 1855 and accompanied her father, Jackson Samples, to Jackson County, Mo., in 1867.

Mr. Adams is a stanch Democrat of the old school who is a firm believer in democratic principles of government. He and his family worship at the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Independence Lodge No. 76.

**Thomas J. Clark**, 5618 Harrison street, Kansas City, Mo., member of the firm Street and Company, Investment Bankers, 15th and West 10th streets, is a member of one of the old pioneer families of Jackson County. He is a son of David M. and Mary E. Clark who resided on a farm near Blue Springs. He was born there Oct. 22, 1874, was educated in the public schools and Independence High School and after leaving school went to Kansas City where he has risen to become a successful citizen. Mr. Clark, for ten years past, has been a member of the Kennedy Investment Company and has lately become associated with Street and Company, Investment Bankers.

David M. Clark was born at Richmond, Va., June 6, 1821 and died Dec. 13, 1911, at Blue Springs, Mo. He came from Virginia to Jackson County in 1846 and settled on a farm near Blue Springs, and at the time the Civil War began, he had become owner of a farm of 360 acres, was a slave owner and an extensive stockman. Aug. 20, 1861 he enlisted in the Confederate service under Capt. Henry Brooking and served throughout the war. During the war his family moved to Greenton, now Odessa, Mo., and remained there while Order No. 11 was in effect. Mr. Clark was married June 17, 1852 to Mary E. Harris, of Jackson County. She died July 31, 1919. This marriage was blessed with children as follow: Robert H., born June 1, 1853, lives at Blue Springs; George Samuel, born May 28, 1855, lives at Louisburg, Kan.; William H., born Aug. 28, 1857, died in August, 1905; David C., born May 16, 1859, died in the state of Wash-



ington, July 26, 1911; Lucy Mary, born in March, 1861, died at the age of two years; Laura wife of Snyder Gale, lives at Freeman, Mo.

Thomas J. Clark was married Dec. 21, 1906, to Ardella P. Cooper, of Chanute, Kan. The children born to this marriage are: Mildred Enid, born Oct. 24, 1907; Virginia Mary, born Oct. 10, 1908; Dorothy Dale, born Nov. 3, 1910; Dana Maxwell, born Nov. 3, 1910 and died July 3, 1911. The last two children born were twins.

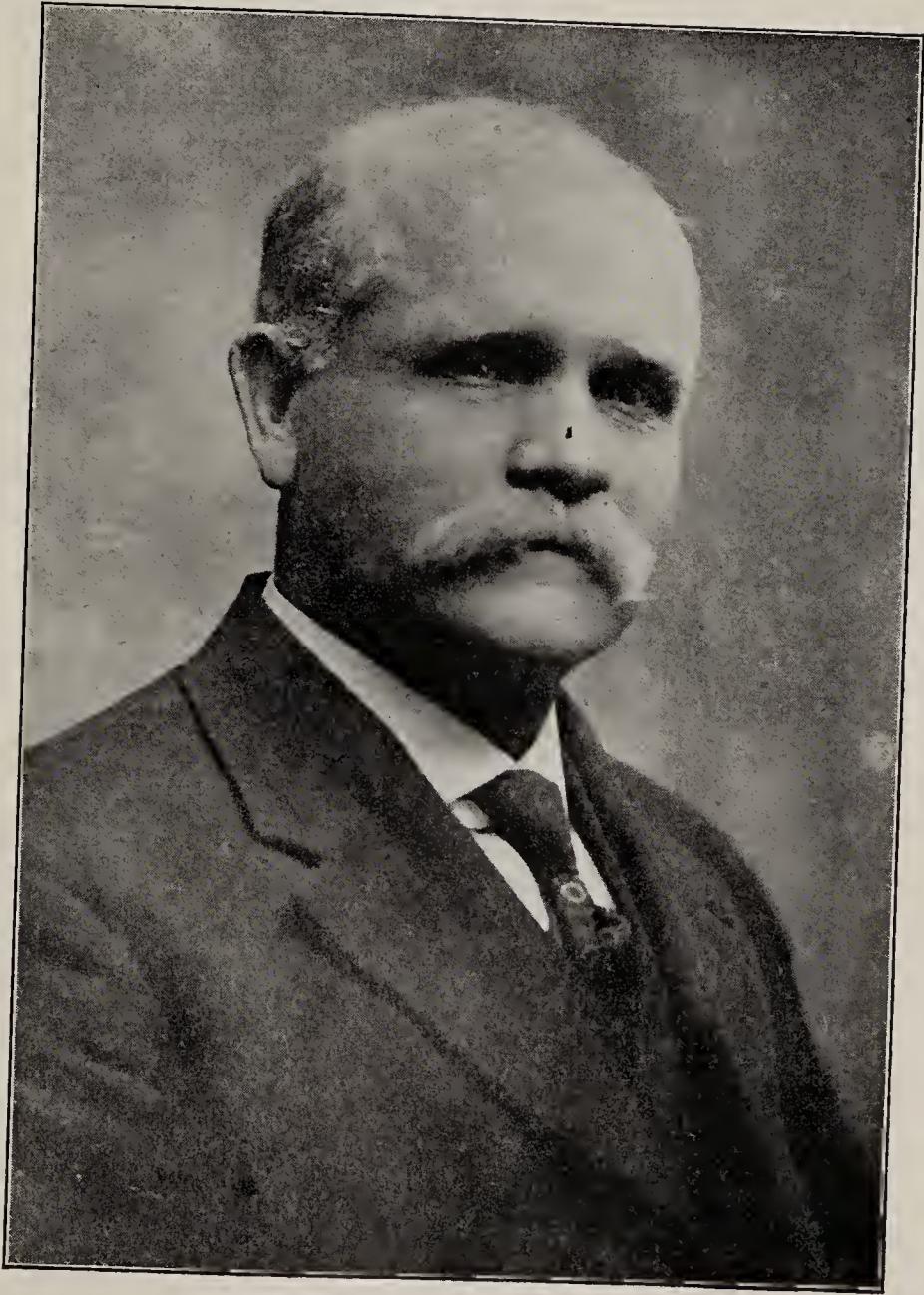
**James W. Stone**, a progressive farmer and stockman, of Prairie township, is a native of Jackson County. He was born in Blue township, Oct. 1, 1856, and is a son of Caleb and Martha E. (Wood) Stone. Caleb Stone was a native of Caldwell County, Ky., born Aug. 14, 1829. He came to Jackson County in 1852, where he was successfully engaged in farming and stock raising for many years. About 25 years ago, he retired and moved to Kansas City, Mo., where he resided until the time of his death, May 25, 1912. He was widely known in Jackson County, and was a prominent member of the Masonic Lodge, and took an active interest in Masonry, being a Thirty-second degree Mason. His remains are buried at Lees Summit. Martha E. (Wood) Stone, mother of James W. Stone, was born in Jackson County, Aug. 9, 1837, and is a member of one of Jackson County's very early pioneer families. She now resides in Kansas City, Missouri.

To Caleb and Martha E. (Wood) Stone were born eight children, as follows: Mrs. Nannie Osborn, Kansas City, Mo.; James W., the subject of this sketch; John N., deceased; Mollie, married James Gray, Kansas City, Mo.; Minnie, married H. T. Ritter, Lees Summit, Mo.; and Allen, a wholesale produce merchant, Topeka, Kan. Two children died in infancy.

James W. Stone was reared on the farm in Jackson County, and attended the district school. When 21 years of age, he began farming on his own account, on rented land. In 1894, he purchased 30 acres of land, and he has added to this farm from time to time, as opportunities offered, and now owns 80 acres, upon which he has made many improvements. In addition to general farming, he is quite extensively engaged in breeding pure-bred Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs.

Mr. Stone was united in marriage March 28, 1878, with Miss Agnes Anna (Garrison), a native of Jackson County, Mo., and a daughter of Augustine and Elizabeth Cabness (Garrison), both of whom died when Mrs. Stone was a child. To Mr. and Mrs. Stone have been born five children, as follows: Lambert, deceased; Luther E., Topeka, Kan.; Addie P., deceased; Elsie Lee, resides at home, and Ruby A., deceased.





JAMES W. STONE.



Mr. Stone is a stockholder and a member of the board of directors of the Farmers Bank of Lees Summit. He is a member of the Christian church, and is a Thirty-second degree Mason. He is a Democrat. While Mr. Stone is not an old man, by any means, he was born at just the right time to be a witness to the many changes and wonderful development that has taken place in Jackson County during the half century past. He was just old enough to remember many events of the stirring and tragic days of the Civil War. He recalls the time when wagon roads were scarce, and the straight trail across the unfenced prairie was the open highway in any direction. He followed the furrow after a yoke of cattle many days, which seems like a memory of the remote past in view of the modern tractor.

**Charles S. Harding**, manager of the M. R. Smith Lumber & Shingle Company, is one of the progressive and well known business men of Independence, Mo. He was born in Sinclair County, Mo., June 21, 1881, and is a son of James A. and Sarah E. (Hatfield) Harding, the former a native of Missouri and the latter of Tennessee. James A. Harding was a veteran of the Civil War, having served in the Federal army about two years. He enlisted in Gundy County, Mo. He died in Appleton City, Mo., in 1883, and his wife died Jan. 19, 1919. They were the parents of the following children: John W., a bridge builder and contractor, East St. Louis, Ill.; A. L., Los Angeles, Cal.; James A., Newcomerstown, Ohio.; Sarah J., married H. H. Smith, and lives near New Salem Church, Mo.; Blanche married J. H. Fry, Colorado Springs; and Charles S., the subject of this sketch.

Charles S. Harding was educated in the public schools of Independence, Mo., and when he was about 19 years of age, he acquired his first experience in the lumber business, entering the employ of the Badger Lumber Company of Independence, Mo. After two years he went with the Chicago Lumber & Coal Company at Norcatur, Kan. He remained with that company one year, when he entered the employ of the Berner Bowman Lumber Company in Kansas City. Later he was employed as head bookkeeper by Clark & Bates in their general office in Kansas City. He was then appointed chief clerk in the county clerk's office at Independence under county clerk S. A. Boyer. In 1909, Mr. Harding organized the O. J. Raymond Lumber Company of Independence, which was succeeded by the M. R. Smith Lumber & Shingle Company in 1916. At that time Mr. Harding transferred his interests to the new company and was retained as manager, which position he now holds. This company is doing an excellent business and under Mr. Hardings capable management,



has built up a large trade. The very appropriate motto of this successful concern is "A satisfied customer is our best advertiser."

Mr. Harding was married Dec. 24, 1902 to Miss Stella Paxton, a daughter of Jno. Paxton. Her parents are both deceased. Mrs. Harding was born in Ray County, Mo. To Mr. and Mrs. Harding have been born three children as follows: Roy, Harold and Mary Charline.

Mr. Harding is a member of the Baptist church, the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He has an extensive acquaintance in Jackson County and has many friends.

**Arthur L. Curran.**—The grocery firm of Curran, Schulenberger and Hausam, Independence, Mo. is one of the leading grocery concerns of Independence and is foremost in the business in this city. Every member of this firm is a native of Missouri and have catered to the public in the capacity of grocers since boyhood. The fine trade enjoyed by this enterprising firm has been built up by courteous treatment of their many customers, selling only the best quality of goods, and selling at the lowest possible margin of profit consistent with good business management.

Arthur L. Curran was born on a farm near Grain Valley, Mo., in 1883. He is a son of David H. and Minnie (Montgomery) Curran, the former a native of Ohio and the latter a native of Jackson County. David H. Curran came to Jackson County prior to the Civil War with his father, Henry Curran, who settled on a farm two and a half miles west of Grain Valley. After many years spent as a farmer he moved to Independence where his death occurred in 1918 at the advanced age of 87 years. David H. Curran followed farming pursuits for a number of years and is now living retired at Tulsa, Okla. Mrs. Curran died in 1889 and her remains are buried in Blue Springs cemetery. They were parents of two children: Arthur L. Curran of this sketch; and Maud, wife of James Talbot, Tulsa, Okla.

After attending the public schools, Arthur L. Curran studied in Independence High School and Brown's Business College, at Kansas City. Prior to engaging in business on his own account, Mr. Curran was in the employ of A. J. Bundschu, and the Boley Clothing Company of Independence. In 1911 in partnership with Roy H. Schulenberg, they opened a grocery store on South Main street. In May, 1918, A. G. Hausam purchased an interest and the firm is now operated under the name of Curran, Schulenberger and Hausam, at 120 West Maple on the north side of the court house square.

Mr. Curran was married Dec. 5, 1907 to Armeda Schulenberg, a

daughter of William and Mary Schulenberg of Independence, the latter of whom died in 1897. The children born to this marriage are: David Harold and Mary Catherine.

The Curran residence is located at 115 West Sea avenue. Mr. Curran was a member of the Independence city council in 1916 and 1917. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Loyal Order of Moose.

**John E. Harvey**, farmer and stockman, Lexington road, Blue township, Jackson County, was born near Clinton, Mo., June 10, 1882. He is a son of William and Palmyra (Houche) Harvey, the former of whom now resides in Kansas City. William Harvey followed farming in Henry County for several years and came to Kansas City in about 1895. Mrs. Harvey died at the Harvey home in Kansas City in 1913 and she is buried in Washington cemetery. The children of the Harvey family are: Mrs. Laura Wells, Clinton, Mo.; G. A., Sedalia, Mo.; Edward, living in Iowa; O. J. Harvey, Kansas City; Mrs. Pearl Braden, Kansas City; John E. Harvey, subject of this sketch; Mrs. Mary Pollard, Kansas City; Earl, Kansas City.

John E. Harvey was reared and educated in Henry County. His first business was that of produce dealer and he was connected for some time with the Independence Ice and Cold Storage Company and followed various occupations until he removed to his present home on the Lexington road. Besides his own place of ten acres, Mr. Harvey is farming 160 acres which is in alfalfa, orchard and pasture. In addition to his farming operations, Mr. Harvey is in the employ of Jackson County as road builder.

Mr. Harvey was married June 20, 1906 to Miss Nellie Anderson of Independence. She is a daughter of M. W. and Julia (Daniels) Anderson, both of whom are deceased. Mr. Anderson came to Jackson County from Kentucky in 1830 and settled in Blue township. He served in the Confederate army during the Civil War. He later became associated with Cornelius Chiles and removed to Independence and was president of the Anderson-Chiles Banking Company, which was later merged with the First National Bank of Independence. Mr. Anderson died Jan. 20, 1906. Mrs. Anderson died in 1887. She was a daughter of Robert Daniels who was reared on the farm now owned by Robert Barr and died there July 24, 1883. The children born to M. W. and Julia Anderson are as follow: Mrs. Kate Turner, wife of Robert S. Turner, she died Aug. 1, 1904; and Mrs. Nellie Harvey of this review, born and reared in Independence.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey have two children: Matthew W. and Julia May. Mr. Harvey is a member of the Yeomen and the Woodmen of the World.



Charles E. St. Clair, of Oak Grove, Mo., has led an interesting and eventful life from the time his parents and their family drove across the country from Virginia in 1843 and located in Jackson County. Mr. St. Clair was born June 5, 1835, in Roanoke County, Va., and is a son of Robert and Elmira (Hewitt) St. Clair, natives, respectively, of Roanoke and Bedford counties, Va.

The St. Clair family drove from Roanoke County, Va., to Jackson County, with the family and all of their movable possessions loaded on wagons, in the fall of 1843. They located on a farm one mile north of Pink Hill, and six miles northwest of Oak Grove, where the father bought a pre-emption claim. The first home of the family was a one-room log cabin, with a loft overhead, where the children slept. This cabin had a mud and stick and sod chimney. The St. Clair family consisted of ten children, five sons and five daughters, as follows: Mary Elizabeth, died in 1855, was the wife of James McFarland; Charles Edward, of this review; Rev. John Haston, a Methodist preacher, died in 1899; Mrs. Julia Kirby, Everett Palmer, and Mrs. Emily Kirby, deceased; Harvey, deceased; Mrs. Virginia Clarkson, Kansas; and Mrs. Ann Henry Simpson, Hutchinson, Kan.; and George, a member of the Kansas City police force.

Three of the sons, Charles E., J. H. and Harvey, served with the Confederate army during the Civil War. Harvey was killed during the Battle of Port Gibson, Miss. The mother of the family died in 1865, just a day after the boys returned home from the war. The father died in 1868.

In June, 1861, Charles E. St. Clair enlisted in Company B, Sixth Missouri cavalry, in the State service, and was subsequently engaged in the regular Confederate service. He became a member of Gen. Francis M. Cockrell's brigade, French's division, and was directly under the command of Col. Eugene Irvin, and saw active service in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana. Gen. Joseph E. Johnson was his first corps commander, and at Atlanta, Ga., the command was turned over to General Hood. Mr. St. Clair took part in the battles of Pea Ridge, Ark., Corinth, Miss., Port Gibson, Baker's Creek, Big Black or Magnolia Grove, the siege of Vicksburg, Dalton, Ga., Resaca Station, Franklin and Nashville, Tenn., and Fort Blakely, in Mobile Bay, where he was captured and sent to Ship Island with a batch of prisoners who were guarded by blacks.

His father having accumulated 400 acres of land Charles E. St. Clair settled on the home farm after the war, and in 1871 he was married. He continued farming until 1891, and then removed to old Blue Springs. Mr.



St. Clair still owns 125 acres of land, and is one of the well-to-do citizens of Jackson County. In 1903 he removed to Oak Grove.

Mr. St. Clair was married in 1871 to Mary Lauretta Mann, and the following children have been born to this union: Minnie Ethel, married Claude Thomas, and died Dec. 31, 1901; Myra Lee, wife of Herman Lefholz, Sniabar township, is the mother of five children, Lawrence St. Clair, Georgia Lee, Mary Josephine and Anna Pauline, twins, and Gussie. The mother of the foregoing children was born in Loudoun County, Va., in 1846, and died in February, 1903. She was a daughter of William and Lee Anna (Mann), who came to Jackson County in 1867.

Mr. St. Clair has always been a stanch Democrat. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He is one of the best known and popular of the octogenarians of Jackson County, and is remarkably well preserved, despite his great age. During later years he has become somewhat of a globe trotter, and has traveled extensively over 26 states, both east and west. He has spent a winter in California, going there with John W. Hudson in 1910, and has spent five winters in Arizona.

Mr. St. Clair is a member of the United Confederate Veterans, and is a regular delegate to all State and National conventions. He was a delegate to the Twenty-second annual convention of ex-Confederate veterans at Atlanta, Ga., from October 7th to 10th.

**Joseph B. Beets**, a pioneer resident of Blue township, was born in Cass County, Mo., in 1843, and is a son of James and Elizabeth (~~Huggles~~) Beets, the former of whom was born in Tennessee and died in Jackson County at the age of 77 years. His wife, Elizabeth Beets, was born in Virginia, and she also attained the age of 77 years. In 1853 James Beets located with his family, in Miami County, Kan., at that time called Lykins County, and settled on a homestead about seven miles northwest of Paola, Kan. James Beets was a Democrat but was a Union sympathizer and was inclined to be loyal to the Federal government. This feeling did not save him from the depredations of the Kansas Unionists, however, and in 1861 he suffered the loss of his live stock which were stolen and run off by raiders. He practically had to leave the state and later joined General Price's army and served for two years with the Confederate forces. He then returned to his family who had settled near the present site of Atherton. Soon after his return, Order No. 11 was issued and he took his family to Iowa where they remained for two years and then went to Nebraska. In 1865 they returned to Jackson County and Mr. Beets rented the Hifner farm until 1866 when he located on the present

home farm now owned by his grandson, Charles E. Beets. This farm consists of 190 acres and is situated three and a half miles southwest of Atherton. It is improved with a handsome brick residence built in 1918. One hundred and sixty acres of the farm is river bottom land and the balance is upland. The farm is devoted to the production of corn, wheat and potatoes, 50 acres of the land having been planted to potatoes in 1919. The children born to James E. and Elizabeth Beets are: Joseph B., of this review; Henry R., George W., Independence, Mo.; James D., Independence, Mo.; William J., deceased; Mrs. Cordelia Ann Hifner.

Henry R. Beets was born in Cass County, Mo., in 1845, and now resides with his brother, George W. Beets, in Fort Osage township. He married Julia Slacker, now deceased, and has five children, as follow: Lela, Fred T., who served three months in the National Army; James Raymond, now in the service of the United States Navy, stationed at Hampton Roads, Va.; Dorothy Virginia; and Henry R.

Joseph B. Beets, subject of this sketch, was married in March, 1875, to Leonora Jones, who was born and reared near Atherton, Mo. She died in 1912, and her remains are buried at Salem church cemetery. The Beets children are: Charles E. and James R. Beets.

**John F. Moseley, "Shadow Lawn Farm".**—That a family can live comfortably and also save money from each year's operations on a small farm in Jackson County has been demonstrated by Mr. and Mrs. John F. Moseley on their place of 15 acres three-fourths of a mile south of Independence. Mr. Moseley purchased his farm in 1911 and he and his family moved thereon in 1912. Four acres of the place are devoted to apples, cherries, plums and other fruits. Three acres are in alfalfa and the balance of the land is pasture. The farm supports four cows and a horse and from 250 to 300 chickens are raised each year of the pure bred Buff Orpington breed. Mrs. Moseley sells from 16 to 27 pounds of butter each week, five to eight pints of cream, 10 gallons of buttermilk and from 35 to 42 pounds of cottage cheese, saving the "whey" for the hogs which are raised for the purpose of providing meat for the family. In January of 1919 the hens produced 500 eggs. In February they produced 300 eggs, and she has had an average of 1,200 gallons of cherries during the past five years. In eight years past, Mrs. Moseley has had but four washings and one ironing done outside of her own home. Mr. and Mrs. Moseley do all the work of the farm and hire no help. During the past season, Mr. Moseley put up ten tons of alfalfa. and only paid out \$1.85 for help. Each year he butchers six or seven hogs and during 1918 he put up 1,600



pounds of bacon. What this couple have done and are doing on a small farm should be an inspiration and guide for others to do likewise. They have plenty, do not have to overwork, have no fears for the future and best of all, have that feeling of independence, without the worry and troubles which beset the large land owner during these times of scarcity of labor and high wages for farm help.

John F. Moseley was born in Louisiana, Mo., May 24, 1861, and is a son of William R. and Mary E. (McCree) Moseley the former of whom was an early settler in Pike County, Mo., and served with the Federal forces during the Civil War. William R. Moseley died in Louisiana in 1873. After his death and upon the opening of Oklahoma Territory to settlement, his widow went to Oklahoma and took up a homestead claim near Garber, Garfield County. She died there April 18, 1915. The children of the Moseley family are: Martha, wife of Charles McRae, Rock Island, Ill.; Eva, wife of Harvey Cobb, Garber, Oklahoma; John F., of this review; Lillie died in Oklahoma.

After being educated in the public school, John F. Moseley learned the trade of pottery maker at White Hall and for 20 years he followed his trade at Macomb, Ill. In 1902 he located in Blackwater, Mo. and remained there for eight years. He then located in Kansas City where he engaged in contracting under the firm name of Moore and Moseley. In 1911 he purchased his present farm "Shadow Lawn" and settled down to the peaceful and comfortable life of a country gentleman.

Mr. Moseley was married in Feb. 10, 1884 to Miss Victoria Cramer, a daughter of Gabriel A. and Mary Jane (Jeffress) Cramer. Gabriel A. Cramer was born in Cooper County, Mo., July 28, 1824 and died there in August, 1913. He was a son of Gabriel Cramer a native of Pennsylvania while his mother was a native of Virginia, her parents coming to Missouri in 1817 in a keel boat up the Missouri River, settling near Blackwater, Cooper County. The children born to Gabriel A. and Mary Cramer are: Milton, Blackwater, Mo.; Mary, deceased wife of Wright Hamilton; Lucy, deceased wife of Amos O'Neal of Cooper County; Caroline died at the age of 14 years; Gabriel A., died at the age of 61 years; Mrs. Victoria Moseley of this review; Susan was the wife of Peter Beck and died in 1874. Gabriel A. Cramer was president of the Farmers Stock Bank of Blackwater for a number of years, from its organization until his death in 1913. He was a large land owner, becoming owner of 520 acres in Cooper County which he sold to his son a few years prior to his death.



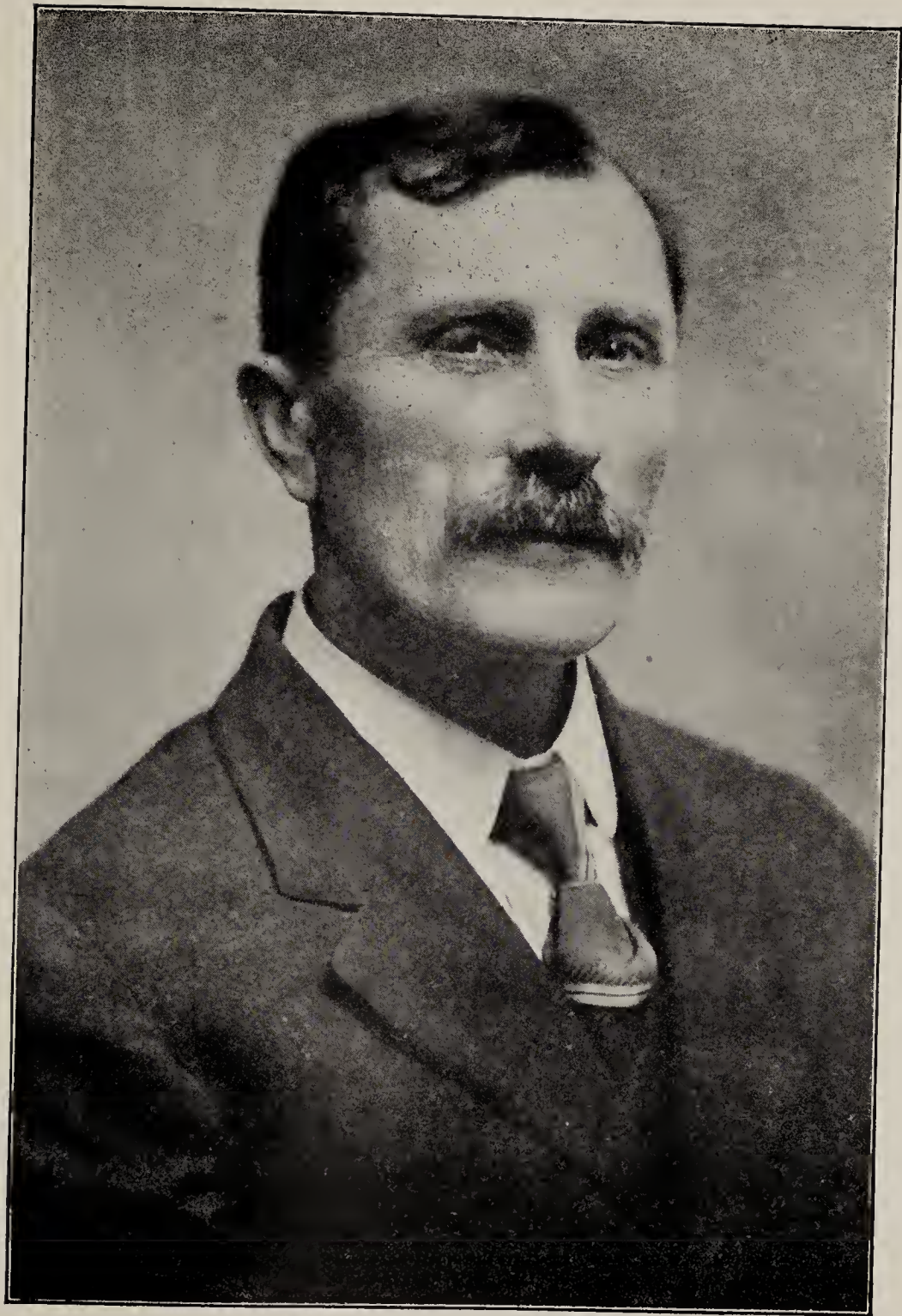
Mr. and Mrs. Moseley have one daughter, Mary Magdalene, wife of J. H. Moore, Sedalia, Mo.

When Mr. and Mrs. Moseley began their married life they had but \$16.00 in capital. They are honest, well meaning and industrious citizens who are a distinct gain to Jackson County. Broad gauged in their views, well informed, happy and contented in their surroundings they are well satisfied with their lot. Mrs. Moseley is a member of the Universalist church.

**John R. Leinweber**, president of the Citizens Bank of Lees Summit and one of the most extensive farmers and stockmen in Jackson County, is a native of Illinois. He was born in Mason County, Dec. 9, 1865, and is a son of Martin and Katherine (Rigle) Leinweber. Martin Leinweber was born in Hamburg, Germany, Feb. 21, 1824. He was reared to manhood in his native land and in 1854, came to America, landing in New York. He worked at common labor for a time and later came west, locating in Illinois. When the Civil War broke out, he enlisted at Havana, Ill. and served in an Illinois cavalry regiment in the Union army for three years and three months. He was married at Paducah, Ky., Jan. 27, 1864 to Katherine Rigle, who was born at Paducah, Ky., April 26, 1846. After the close of the Civil War, Martin Leinweber settled on a farm in Mason County, Ill., where he resided for 30 years. He sold his place in Illinois and when he was about to move to Jackson County, he was accidentally drowned in Henry County, Mo., while endeavoring to ford Willow Branch creek. He was a successful business man and during the course of his career, had become very well to do. At the time of his death he was the owner of 1,840 acres of land in Jackson County and 1,820 acres in Henry County, Mo. and his vast estate is still undivided among the heirs.

To Martin and Katherine (Rigle) Leinweber were born 12 children, as follow: John R., the subject of this sketch; Mary, married Edward Stansberry, Mason County, Ill.; Elizabeth, married H. D. Hiller, Prairie township, Jackson County; Annie, married H. J. Hiller, Mason County, Ill.; Martin, Prairie township, Jackson County; Minnie, married Fred Garlish, Mason County, Ill.; Martha, married Herman Boeck, and is now deceased; Clara married William Dark, Prairie township; Katie, deceased; Emma, married E. Ritter, Prairie township; George resides in Kansas City, Mo.; and Elvina married H. Beach and lives in Prairie township. The mother of these children now resides with her son, John R., the subject of this sketch.

John R. Leinweber was reared on a farm and received his education



JOHN R. LEINWEBER.





in the public schools. Early in life he became familiar with the various details of farming and stock raising, and has made this field of endeavor his life occupation and has met with well merited success. He is now operating 1,150 acres of land and is the owner of 450 acres of some of the best land in Jackson County. His place is well improved, with a good modern residence and other farm buildings. He carries on farming on a large scale, using tractors and other up to date farm machinery. The place has two large silos of 400 tons capacity and also a grain elevator with a capacity of 18,000 bushels. He makes a specialty of breeding pure bred Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He holds private stock sales on an average of twice a year, and always finds ready market for his excellent strain of stock.

Mr. Leinweber was united in marriage Feb. 18, 1890, with Miss Dora Hiller, a native of Dearborn County, Ind., born Oct. 11, 1870. Her parents were natives of Hanover, Germany, and early settlers in Mason County, Ill. To Mr. and Mrs. Leinweber have been born five children as follows: Addie, married Paul Fisher and resides in Texas; Elsie, Alfred, Katherine and Martha, all of whom reside at home with their parents except the married daughter.

Mr. Leinweber was one of the organizers of the Citizens Bank of Lees Summit in 1906 and has been a stockholder in that institution since its organization and served as its president since 1916. He is a stock holder in the Drover's Packing Plant of Kansas City, Mo., and he is president of the Farmers Mutual Fire and Lightning Insurance Company of Jackson County, Mo. He is a Democrat and a member of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Leinweber is accustomed to doing things on a large scale, and his progressive methods and business capacity have won for him a high rank among Jackson County's leading citizens.

**Murt Sullivan**, manager of the Atherton Elevator Company, Atherton, Mo., was born at Carters Creek, Murray County, Tenn. in 1869. He is a son of John and Mary L. (McKee) Sullivan who came to Jackson County, Mo., resided for some time in this county and at Kansas City and finally located in Clay County where they spent a number of years and returned to Jackson County. John Sullivan died in Jackson County in 1907. Mrs. Sullivan died in 1905. Their children are: Murt Sullivan, of this review; Robert, a farmer near Sibley, Mo.; Jerry, a farmer near Sibley, Mo.; and John P., Fort Osage township; Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, Sibley, Mo.; Mrs. Angie Hostetter, Blue Springs, Mo.; Daniel, Denver, Col.; Mrs. Julia James, Buckner, Mo.

Murt Sullivan was reared to the life of a farmer and stockman and is owner of a fine farm of 278 acres, of Missouri River bottom land adjacent to Atherton on the north. For some years he was a breeder of registered Poland China hogs and made a success of this branch of animal husbandry. He has been in charge of the grain elevator at Atherton since its inception and has made a success of the business through a policy of fair and honest dealings with its patrons and conducting the business in such a fair manner as to attract and hold the trade of the Atherton territory.

Mr. Sullivan was married in 1904 to Susie L. Fuhr, of Sibley, Mo., a daughter of Lawrence and Susan (Alkire) Fuhr, both of whom are deceased, the former dying in 1906 and the latter having departed this life in 1896.

**Adam Hill**, farmer and dairyman, Blue township, is a native son of Jackson County, and a member of one of the oldest pioneer families of this section of Missouri. He was born on the Hill farm, Sept. 28, 1875, and is a son of William Moberly Hill, who was born July 6, 1836, and died Nov. 27, 1912. His mother was Ann Elizabeth (Gossett) Hill, and she was born Nov. 10, 1850, and departed this life Nov. 4, 1880. William Moberly Hill was a son of Adam Hill, a pioneer of Jackson County, who came here from Kentucky in 1833, was a blacksmith by trade, and built the first race track in Jackson County. This track was laid out north of the present electric line at Englewood, and he later built a track on the farm now owned by Jo L. Hill and Frank Alston. Further details of the Hill family history will be found in the sketch of Jo L. Hill, in this volume.

Adam Hill was educated in the Rock Creek school, and the Marmaduke Military Academy, and the State University at Columbia. He graduated from Marmaduke Academy in 1893. After studying at the university he returned home and followed farming. For eight years he has been conducting a dairy. Mr. Hill is the owner of 40 acres, located at Overton and Eighteenth streets, in Blue township. This farm is improved with a five-room bungalow and a dairy barn and horse barn. His herd of 16 milch cows includes four registered Jerseys. This farm is well watered, besides having city water, Rock Creek runs through the Hill land.

Mr. Hill was married Dec. 12, 1906, to Miss Julia Forlow, of Blue township, a daughter of William and Mary Forlow. Mr. Forlow resides with his daughter. Mrs. Forlow died Aug. 28, 1890, and her remains are interred in Woodlawn cemetery. The Forlow children are: Miss Minnie Forlow, a nurse, Kansas City, Mo.; Norma, wife of J. W. Hunter; Frank, Englewood, Mo.; Oliver, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Adam Hill, of this sketch;



Jacob, Sheffield, Mo.; Bettie, wife of Dr. W. W. Hobbs, Raytown, Mo.; Jennie, wife of Joseph Denton, Independence, Mo.; Ena, wife of G. C. Boyd, Weisre, Idaho.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill have a daughter, Frances Hill.

**Robert Lee Bennett**, proprietor of a flourishing furniture and undertaking business at Sugar Creek, the first of its kind to be established in that place, was born in Surrey County, N. C., Jan. 1, 1876. He is a son of James and Lavina (Boyles) Bennett, both of whom were natives of North Carolina, who spent their lives in the State of their nativity. They were the parents of seven children, as follow: William, Rufus E., David F., James N., John L., Sallie Ann, and Robert Lee. James Bennett enlisted in the Federal Army and was detailed as a hammer man, and operated a forge for the making of iron work of all kinds used in the army. He lived to be 72 years of age. His wife died at the age of 68. Both are buried at Sulphur Springs, N. C.

Robert Lee Bennett attended school at Pilot Mountain, N. C. He served as deputy sheriff for four years, and then followed farming until he came to Jackson County, Mo., in 1903. For five years he was in the employ of the Redman-Baker Grocery Company, and was then in the employ of the Wyandotte Furniture Company for four years. On Oct. 20, 1916, he opened his furniture and undertaking business at Sugar Creek, and has built up a splendid and profitable trade.

Mr. Bennett was married Oct. 22, 1908, to Miss Emma L. Shrank, of Independence, Mo., a daughter of John and Ellen Shrank, the latter of whom is deceased, and the former lives at 830 North Spring street, with Mr. Bennett. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett have two children: Ellen, and Elbert Pershing.

In 1908 Mr. Bennett was a candidate for constable. He stands six feet, six inches in height, and weighs 210 pounds, and was awarded the prize at Independence fair in 1913 as being the tallest man on the grounds.

**N. H. Phelps**, farmer and dairyman, deputy marshal of Jackson County, owner of a fine farm of 58 acres on the old Lees Summit road, now known as the Phelps road, in Blue township, is a native son of Jackson County. His father was Josiah Phelps, a native of Kentucky, who came to Jackson County in pioneer days with his father.

Josiah Phelps, during the Civil War, returned to Kentucky, and remained there until the war was over. He followed farming and stock raising after the war, and became the owner of 320 acres of land. He



died in 1884. During his lifetime he was prominent in Jackson County, and was a leader of the Democratic party. The children of the Phelps family are as follow: E. O., Thomas, Independence, Mo.; John, lives in Oklahoma; Mrs. Rosa Smith, deceased; N. H., subject of this sketch; Marion A., Blue Springs, Mo.; Mrs. Jennie Inman, deceased; Mrs. Julia Chatman, Sniabar township. More details of the Phelps family history are given in the sketch of Thomas Phelps in this volume.

N. H. Phelps, of this review, was educated in the district schools, and has followed farming and dairying successfully for several years. For the past 12 years he has filled the post of deputy marshal of Jackson County, and is now serving under County Marshal H. C. Hoffman. His fine farm of 58 acres is situated within two miles of Independence, and is a very pretty tract, improved with a handsome residence of six rooms, erected in 1891.

Mr. Phelps was married in 1890, to Miss Emma C. Crewell, a daughter of William Crewell, an old settler of Blue township, a sketch of whom appears in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps have one son, William Joseph, aged 24 years, at home with his parents.

Mr. Phelps is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and the Fraternal Order of Eagles, and is deservedly popular in Jackson County.

**Henry J. Binger.**—The life story of Henry J. Binger, farmer and stockman, owner of 65 acres of excellent farm land on the Rock road, nine miles from Independence, and within three miles of Blue Springs, is that of a self-made man. Left an orphan in his boyhood days, he was forced to go to work for his living at a tender age. Through years of hard work and good management he has succeeded and is now one of the leading and prosperous citizens of Jackson County.

Mr. Binger was born March 10, 1870, near Milwaukee, Wis., and is a son of Joseph and Magdalena Binger, natives of Germany, who were pioneers in the wilderness of Wisconsin. The father died not long after the birth of his son, Henry J., and the mother died in 1883, when in her fiftieth year. Five children were left orphans, as follows: Charles, deceased; Henry J., of this review; Minnie and George, deceased; Andrew, whose whereabouts are unknown.

Henry J. Binger accompanied his mother to Jackson County in 1876, and when she died he was left homeless and penniless at the age of 14 years. For two months following he worked in Independence for a bare living. For the next two years he worked for a farmer at Carrollton, and managed to attend school for two terms of nine months during that

period. He received \$8.00 a month for his services, and bought his own clothes. Returning to Jackson County, he worked as farm laborer until 24 years of age, and won a reputation as a splendid worker and good farmer. After his marriage, Mr. Binger lived for three years on the Gato place, and then rented the Tom Clayton farm for seven years. His mother-in-law then induced him to take charge of her place, and he managed it for three years. It was then he bought his present home place of 65 acres, which is easily worth \$300 per acre.

In August, 1894, Mr. Binger was married to Miss Lura DeWitt, a daughter of the late Daniel and Caroline (Lowe) DeWitt, the latter of whom is one of the oldest pioneer women of Jackson County, now being in the eighty-eighth year of her age. Three children have been born to Henry J. and Lura Binger: Herman, aged 22 years; and Comer and Fred, deceased. Herman Binger enlisted for service in the National Army in 1918, and served for six weeks at Columbia, Mo., in the motor transport service, immediately after he became twenty-one years of age. He became ill with influenza, and nearly lost his life.

Mr. Binger is a Democrat. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias of Independence. He is one of the substantial and influential citizens of his neighborhood, and is known as a progressive and enterprising farmer, who has the respect and esteem of all who know him.

**Col. James E. Hare**, auctioneer, Independence, Mo., was born at Camden, Ray County, Mo., in 1881, and is a son of Thomas and Julia (Lally) Hare, both of whom are deceased.

Thomas Hare was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1829 and died in 1917. He emigrated from England to America in 1849 and settled at Lexington, Mo., where he was married in 1865 to Julia Lally who was born in Indiana in 1839. Mrs. Hare died in 1895. Thomas and Julia Hare were parents of the following children: Mrs. Sarah Ann Connors, deceased; Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Bowers, Lexington, Mo.; George J. Hare, deceased; Thomas E. Hare, Excelsior Springs, Mo.; Mrs. Kate Halleran, Lexington, Mo.; and James E. Hare, of this review.

While James E. Hare was a youth, his parents removed to Lexington, Mo. and he attended the public schools of that city. Up to the time of his entering the profession of auctioneer he was engaged in various mercantile pursuits. Coming to Jackson County in 1897, he settled in Independence. The first sale which Colonel Hare cried was for W. H. Johnson in 1915. This sale was a success and he has since followed the profession and is devoting his entire time to the crying of public sales.



Colonel Hare was married in 1906 to Catherine M. Golden of Richmond, Mo., a daughter of James E. and Mary Golden, both of whom are deceased; Mr. and Mrs. Hare have five children: Marie Winifred, James E., Thomas Francis, George Michael and Harry Fagan.

**J. B. Todd**, postmaster of Sugar Creek, Jackson County, is a native of Texas. He was born June 16, 1881, in Whitney, Texas, and is a son of Edward and Jennie (Spaulding) Todd, both of whom were natives of Tennessee. Edward Todd went to Oklahoma in 1891, and located in Muskogee, when the present large city was but a growing village, and there were but two brick buildings in the place. He embarked in business in that city, and continued in mercantile pursuits until his retirement, in 1909. His wife died in 1917, and he lives in Muskogee.

J. B. Todd accompanied his parents to Oklahoma in 1891, and was there reared to young manhood. He was educated at the National Normal University, Lebanon, Ohio, pursuing the scientific course in this well known school from 1899 to 1902. He then returned to Muskogee, and in 1904 he was married to Miss Lochie Ballard, of Sherman, Texas. She is a daughter of the Rev. C. L. Ballard, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. and Mrs. Todd have three children: Ballard, Dorothy and Edward. Mrs. Todd died in July, 1913, and her remains were interred at Wagner, Okla.

In August, 1914, J. B. Todd came to Jackson County, and opened a drug store at Sugar Creek. He was appointed postmaster in 1915, succeeding L. W. Ballinger, and Feb. 16, 1917, the Sugar Creek office was placed in the third class. Mr. Todd was appointed by President Wilson for a four-year term.

The first postmaster appointed at Sugar Creek was Ed. Harding, who received his appointment in 1903. L. W. Ballinger succeeded him in 1906, and Ballinger was succeeded by Mr. Todd in 1915. While this office has no rural routes or free delivery, it is the most unique in the United States, because of the fact that Sugar Creek is not an incorporated town. The office receipts will exceed \$2,400 yearly, this large business being due to the patronage of the Standard Oil Company, and many of its 2,000 employes.

Mr. Todd is a courteous and obliging official, who takes a keen interest in the duties of his office and administers its affairs in a capable manner with the aid of his assistant, Miss Vivian Wilson, who has been in the office for the past three years. The first mail messenger from the Santa Fe railroad depot to the Sugar Creek postoffice was J. H. Thatch, who



carried the mail from March, 1906, to January, 1909, and never missed a mail, resigning in January, 1919, on account of his advanced age, he being then 75 years old.

Mr. Todd is a member of Wagner Lodge, No. 98, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and the Chapter at the same city. He is affiliated also with the Woodmen of the World.

**Burr Curtis Loar**, 1216 West Lexington street, who for the past seven years has been conducting a thriving moving and storage business, employing from one to six men, using two moving vans, and maintaining two storage houses, one at the corner of Cottage and Washington, and the other on Washington Park boulevard, was born in Elk County, Kan., Aug. 30, 1874. He is a son of Wilson Shannon and Lucinda J. (White) Loar.

Wilson Shannon Loar was a veteran of the Civil War, enlisting in Kansas City, and serving with the Union armies. He freighted from Kansas City to Fort Scott for a number of years prior to the building of the railroad to Fort Scott. He died at the age of 74 years, and is buried in Woodlawn cemetery. Mrs. Lucinda J. Loar resides at 412 West Sea avenue. The children born to Wilson Shannon and Lucinda J. Loar are: Mrs. Millie Street, deceased; Mrs. Nora Reitzel, Waterville, Kan.; Mrs. Rosa Nesbitt, Independence, Mo.; B. C. Loar, of this review; Delbert, 700 South Cottage street, Independence; Grace, at home with her mother; Mrs. Stella Loveland, St. Clair Park, Blue township; Mrs. Lulu Scott, Minneapolis, Kan.

B. C. Loar was educated in the public schools of Kansas and Mount Ayre, Iowa, and Independence, Mo. For seven years he was chief clerk of the Missouri and Kansas Telephone Company, after which he engaged in the business of buying, building up and selling grocery stores in Kansas City and Independence.

Mr. Loar established his transfer and storage business in July, 1913, and has made a success of the undertaking. He has two moving vans, employs from one to six men, and has storage houses at Cottage street and Washington Park boulevard, and at 1230 West Rubey street.

Mr. Loar was married May 28, 1898, to Miss Cora Crawford, of Johnson County, Mo., who has borne him children as follow: Hazel Margaret Loar, a graduate of Independence High School, studied at Spaulding's Commercial College, Kansas City, and is now employed as stenographer for Hickman-Warren Manufacturing Company, at Centropolis, Mo.

Mrs. Cora (Crawford) Loar was a daughter of Hampton and Margaret (Foss) Crawford, who died when she was but an infant, and she

was reared by her foster parents, H. J. and Mary J. Lingo, of Post Oak, Johnson County, Mo. H. J. Lingo was born in Illinois, and moved to Johnson County, Mo., in 1882. He purchased a farm in that county, and owned 200 acres at the time of his death in his ninetieth year. Mary (Foss) Lingo, his wife, was born near New Albany, Ind., in 1846. She was a daughter of Lorenzo and Martha J. Foss, the former of whom came to America when 26 years old, and settled in Indiana. Mrs. Mary J. Lingo resides with Mr. and Mrs. Loar. Mrs. Cora Loar was educated in the Warrensburg State Normal School.

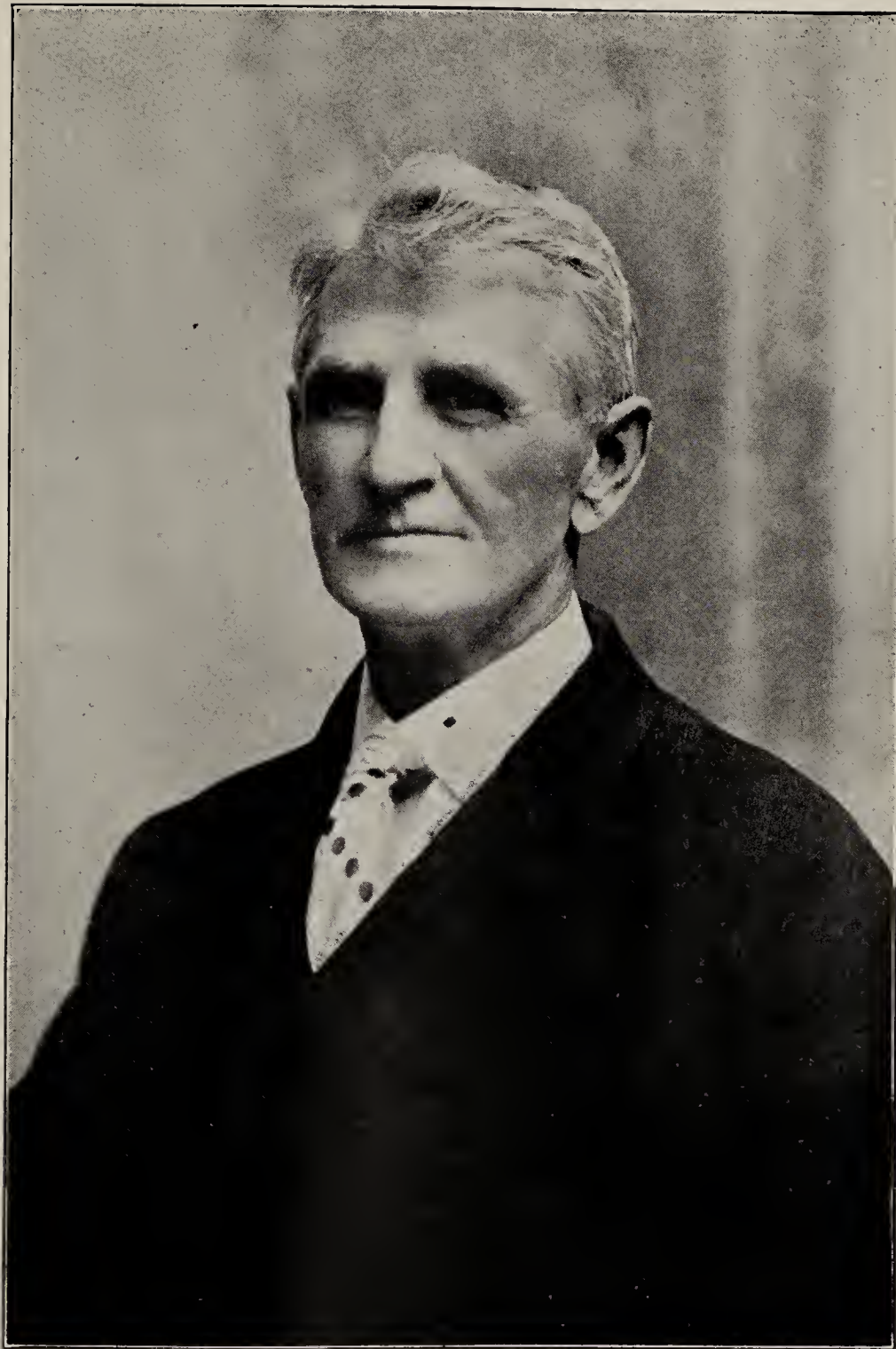
Mr. Loar is financial secretary of the Security Benefit Association, Independence, Local No. 418.

**William M. Norris**, a well known farmer and stockman, who is operating 320 acres of land in Prairie township, where he is carrying on general farming, and also breeding Polled Hereford cattle, is a native of Missouri. He was born at Fredericksburg, Ray County, May 21, 1857, and is a son of Middleton and Susan (Adams) Norris, who were the parents of four children, of whom William M. is the second in order of birth. The father died when William M. was 11 years old, and the mother afterwards married John Sharp, and one child was born to that union. The mother is now deceased.

William M. Norris was reared in Ray County to the age of 10 years, when he came to Jackson County with his parents, in 1867. He remained at home until the death of his mother, in 1881, and since that time has been doing for himself. He has operated rented land successfully, and for the past 13 years has been on the same farm, which is the property of Mary E. Long, of Kansas City, Mo. Since 1913, he has been breeding Polled Hereford cattle, and has met with considerably more than ordinary success in this department of animal husbandry.

Mr. Norris has been married three times. His first wife was Mary Horan. No children were born to that union. His second marriage was to Amanda Strange, and two children were born to that union: Arville, Kansas City, Mo., and Harley, deceased. On Jan. 23, 1890, Mr. Norris was married to Alice Neidig, a native of Michigan, and a daughter of Jesse and Sarah Ann (Myer) Neidig, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter of Maryland. The Neidig family came to Jackson County in 1894, and the parents are both now deceased. To William M. and Alice (Neidig) Norris have been born three children: William Russell, Prairie township; Ruth E., an English teacher in high school, and Harry M., who resides at home with his parents.





WILLIAM M. NORRIS.





Mr. Norris has been a witness to much progress and development within the period of his recollection in this section of Missouri. When he was a boy growing up, he endured much hardship and many inconveniences, common to the early days. He was born in a log cabin, and after the death of his father, assisted his widowed mother to maintain the family in a meager way. When a mere boy he drove oxen and plowed and hauled logs with them. He was probably 10 years old before he ever saw a wagon of any kind. Such was the scarcity of conveniences among the pioneers of the section where he lived 50 years ago.

Mr. Norris is a member of the Baptist church, and is a Democrat. He has always taken an interest in local affairs.

**John L. Cook**, proprietor of the Maple Avenue Market, is one of the most successful business men of Independence. "Cook's" or the Maple Avenue Market was started in 1915 at 300 Maple avenue. Besides this establishment, Mr. Cook is the owner of another market at 112 East Lexington street, which he opened in 1901. Mr. Cook began his business experience in Independence in 1899, when he became associated with Martin and Company, on the west side of the square. He was with Smart and Company on South Main street, this being his first venture on his own account.

The Maple Avenue Market occupies a frontage of 50 feet, with a depth of 100 feet, and a basement extending under half of the store space. His East Lexington store, which also handles meats and groceries, occupies two rooms 30 x 100 feet. Mr. Cook does a large wholesale business in meats and groceries, in addition to his retail business. He has a contract with Jackson County to furnish supplies for five county institutions, and employs a total of 15 salespeople in his stores.

John L. Cook was born on a farm near Blue Springs, in 1879, and is a son of Marion and Isabelle (Holloway) Cook, both of whom are now living on the Blue Springs road, on the farm owned by the subject of this sketch, which consists of 76 acres. Mr. Cook learned the butcher's trade at Hume, Mo., with his father. His knowledge of the grocery and meat business has been gained through experience, and the extensive concern under his ownership and management is the result of close application to business, fair treatment of the public, and unfailing courtesy to his hundreds of patrons at all times.

John L. Cook was married in 1901 to Miss Louise Zeller, of Rovanna, Neb., a daughter of Mathis Zeller, who resides in Nebraska. The future Cook family residence is in process of erection at 214 Farmer street, and

will be a modern structure of eight rooms, built of rock and stucco, at a cost of \$8,000.

Mr. Cook is a member of the Baptist church. He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is a Shriner and a Thirty-second degree Mason. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Fraternal Order of Eagles, and the Loyal Order of Moose. He has served as councilman from the Fourth ward for two years.

**Clarence O. Leeka**, city attorney of Independence, Mo., was born in Fremont County, Iowa. He is the third son of William and Rachel (Seward) Leeka. A great grandson of Christian Leeka and Elizabeth Armentrout Leeka, of Rockingham County, Va., and a grandson on the maternal side of Byron Pidney Seward, a relative of William H. Seward, the statesman, and Emma Carter Seward.

After completing his collegiate courses of study at Lincoln, Neb., he studied law at Harvard Law School and Boston University, and thereafter settled in Custer County, Okla., and practiced law for seven years. He came to Independence, Mo., in 1910. He has been city attorney of that city for six years.

June 27, 1904, he was married to Ruth M. Sheehy, of Boston, Mass., a daughter of Rev. F. M. and Orilla Sheehy. To this union three children have been born: William Francis, Seward Clough, and Rilla.

**Claud Bowling**, farmer and stockman, livestock buyer and shipper, Fort Osage township, road overseer of District No. 8 for the past 20 years, is a native of Jackson County. He was born Sept. 9, 1869, on a farm in Fort Osage township, and is a son of James and Julia A. (Pinker) Bowling, the former of whom was a native of Kentucky.

James Bowling attained the great age of 93 years, and died in 1913, his remains being interred in the Lobb cemetery. He was a veteran of the Mexican War, and came to Jackson County from Kentucky during the sixties, first settled near Blue Springs, and later moved to a farm near Buckner, where he resided for 40 years, then moving to a home in Independence, where his death occurred. At the time of his death he was probably the oldest living resident of the county. His widow still resides in Independence. His children are: Claud and James. James Bowling died in 1919, at the age of 47 years. He was in the employ of the Metropolitan Railway Company for 19 years.

Claud Bowling attended Oakland School, and has followed farming during his entire life. The Bowling farm consists of 147.5 acres, and is



located three and one-half miles southwest of Buckner. This farm is well improved, and is devoted to the raising of hogs and cattle.

Mr. Bowling was married in November, 1893, to Maud Johnson, a daughter of Carroll and Sallie (Owens) Johnson, both of whom were natives of Jackson County, and resided near Pink Hill.

Six children have been born to Claud and Sallie Bowling, as follow: Robert, married Marie Corn, and lives in Independence; Ruby, wife of Ray Harris, Buckner, Mo.; Mrs. Gladys, wife of Ray Jones, Independence; Helen, Claudine Glen Miles, at home with their parents.

Mr. Bowling is a Democrat, and takes an active part in political matters in Jackson County. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America of Independence, and the Woodmen of the World, of Buckner. In addition to his farming activities, Mr. Bowling is an extensive buyer and shipper of livestock. For the past 20 years he has filled the post of road overseer of his district, and so faithfully and well has he discharged the duties of the office that the people have full confidence in him, and he has the esteem of all who know him.

**Fred Fleischman**, retired merchant tailor, 1206 North Liberty street, is one of the best known and popular former business men of Independence. He was born in East Prussia, Germany, March 26, 1855, and is a son of Frederick Fleischman. He was reared to young manhood in his native land, and served for four years in the Prussian Army prior to immigrating to America, in 1879. He first followed the tailoring trade at Chicago, Ill., for one year, and then went to Fond du Lac, Wis., and was located there, and at Oshkosh, Wis., until he made up his mind to see the country. Accordingly he set out to cross the United States, and worked at his trade of journeyman tailor in Oakland and San Francisco and San Diego, Calif., and various other cities of Oregon and Washington, on the Pacific coast, and also stayed in Montana cities for a time. After years of wandering over the West, he settled in Independence, Oct. 1, 1885. He established himself in business and for 30 years he prospered in the city of his adoption. The Fleischman tailoring establishment was located on the north side of the square, and for years was patronized by the best people of the city and county. After his wife's death, in 1913, Mr. Fleischman retired from active business. Besides city property, he is the owner of 200 acres of timber land in McCurtin County, Okla. He purchased the site of his present home in 1894, and erected a seven-room residence thereon.

Mr. Fleischman was married in 1886 to Margaret Ames, of Fond du

Lac, Wis. She departed this life in 1913, and her remains were interred in the Mt. Washington cemetery. The children born of this union are: Arthur H., Fred E., Theodore and Garnett W. Arthur H. operates the motor bus from Independence to Sugar Creek. Fred E. Fleischman served as city mail carrier for six years prior to enlisting in the United States Army. He first trained at the Medical Department of the State University, at Columbia, and was in the service from June, 1918, to July, 1919. When the armistice was signed he was operating an ambulance carrying wounded and sick soldiers from arriving steamers to the hospitals in New York City, as a member of the Medical Corps. He is now operating an automobile on North Main street, and has the privilege of returning to the city mail service within five years from his discharge from the army. Theodore Fleischman, now employed in the Independence postoffice, enlisted in the aviation department of the United States Army in March, 1918, was first sent to Texas, and then to Dorr Field, Fla., where he was in training when the war closed. Garnet W. Fleischman is in the employ of the Standard Oil Company, at Sugar Creek.

Mr. Fleischman is a member of the Evangelical church. During the many years of his successful business career in his home city, he made and retained a world of good friends, who were his valued and steadfast patrons. His record as an honest, conscientious tailor is a splendid one, and he is one of the fine old citizens of Independence, who can look back upon his active career with few regrets and with many pleasant reminiscences.

**Robert Franklin Milton.**—"Sunnyside Farm," consisting of 420 acres, owned and operated by R. F. Milton, better known as "Frank" Milton, situated on the Lees Summit road, in Blue township, is one of the show places of Jackson County. On this large farm are five sets of farm improvements. The home place is improved with a handsome residence, set in a grove of trees, and fronted by a stone fence, or wall, of attractive design. In April of 1888, when Mr. Milton returned to Jackson County from Virginia, he purchased 100 acres, going in debt for the purchase price, borrowing \$4,000. At this time there were no roads of any consequence in his vicinity, the roads being little more than "hog trails." The improvements on the land were negligible, the old Lutrell cabin still standing on the farm. Mr. Milton paid an average of \$50 an acre for his land, which is now worth from \$400 to \$500 an acre. He has paid from \$40 to \$200 an acre. He was born Nov. 18, 1859, on a farm near Wellington,



Lafayette County, Mo., and is a son of Benjamin F. and Eva Frances (Crawford) Milton, natives of Virginia, who came to Missouri in 1854.

Benjamin Milton first settled in Lafayette County, and about 1859 he moved to Independence and followed his trade of carpenter. He was born Nov. 7, 1833, and died Jan. 12, 1911. In 1877 he removed to Virginia, where he remained until 1892, and then returned to Jackson County, where he spent his last years, at the home of his son, R. F. Milton. He was the father of nine children: Marietta Virginia, born July 4, 1857, is the wife of George E. Cummings, Maywood, Mo.; Robert Franklin, of this review; James Henry, born Nov. 17, 1860, is a division superintendent on the Rock Island railroad; George B., born Aug. 18, 1864, is a farmer, living nearby; Thomas Lockbridge, born Oct. 6, 1866, is a railroad man, living at Independence; Sadie May, born Feb. 6, 1869, is the wife of Edward Hodgins, of Kansas City, Kan.; Ambrose Cross, born July 20, 1871, has a farm adjoining that of his brother; Harry Everett, born April 23, 1875, is a railroad man, living at Independence; Mrs. Margaret Cordelia Hewlitt, born Aug. 3, 1878, is a widow, living at Liberal, Kan., was born in the Shenandoah Valley, Va. The mother of the foregoing children was born Sept. 17, 1833, and died in 1913. When the remains of both parents of R. F. Milton were laid away for the long sleep the six stalwart sons of the family served as pallbearers. They reared a splendid family of nine children, all of whom are living, doing well, and are respected citizens of their respective communities.

Robert Franklin Milton received his education in the schools of Missouri and Virginia. He returned from Virginia in 1885, after his marriage, and here began his successful career. He continued to send for the different members of the Milton family until all had returned to Jackson County. Mr. Milton owes his success to hard work, economy, good financial management, and the rise in land values in this county. During his entire career he has been an extensive feeder of cattle and hogs, and also raises horses and mules.

Mr. Milton was married in 1885 to Miss Elizabeth L. Myers, who was born Aug. 2, 1858, in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, a daughter of Joshua and Margaret (Myers) Myers. The children born to this union are: James Claude, Bessie Evelina, Grace Virginia, George Franklin, Dorothy Geneva. James Claude Milton was born Feb. 17, 1885, near Oak Grove, and is a farmer, living nearby. He married Frances Murphy, the daughter of Leslie Murphy, deceased, and has one child, Lucille Elizabeth.



Bessie Evelina, born near Wellington, Lafayette County, is the wife of Prof. Forrest Allen, former physical director at the State Normal School, Warrensburg, Mo., and is now physical director of Kansas University, at Lawrence, Kan. She is well educated, is a graduate of the Warrensburg Normal, and taught school prior to her marriage. She has five children, Mary Elizabeth, Forrest Clare, Jr., Milton Perry, Jane, and Robert Earl Forrest. Grace Virginia was born Feb. 14, 1891, and died Oct. 10, 1895. Ethel Frances Milton was born April 23, 1894, and is a graduate of Dillenbeck College, the Warrensburg Normal, and the State University at Columbia. She is a talented elocutionist, and has been in the employ of the government at Washington for several months. George Franklin Milton was born Nov. 2, 1896, is a farm owner. He married Beatrice Muckey, in 1913, and has two children, Dorcas Viola, aged four years, and Georgia Beatrice, two months old. Dorothy Geneva was born May 16, 1900, and died Sept. 2, 1900.

Mr. Milton is a Democrat, who has taken a more or less active part in the affairs of his party. For three years he has served as deputy county assessor, and is well known throughout Jackson County, and served 13 years as road overseer. He and Mrs. Milton are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and Mr. Milton is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias lodge.

**D. H. Crick.**—The D. H. Crick Lumber Company, located on West Elm street, was organized in 1915 by D. H. Crick, the present proprietor. This concern carries a full line of lumber and builders materials and enjoys a splendid patronage from Independence people and the people of the contiguous territory.

D. H. Crick was born at Plano, Ill., Oct. 1, 1875 and is a son of James and Letitia (Evans) Crick, both of whom are deceased. James Crick was a native of Southampton, England and immigrated to America when 35 years of age, settling at Plano, Ill., where his death occurred in 1893. Mrs. Letitia Crick died in Independence in 1910. When a young man, James Crick served as a private in the British army and was a sharpshooter. The children of James and Letitia Crick are as follow: James, a carpenter in the employ of the Independence Foundry; Willia, proprietor of the Independence Foundry; Anna, wife of Henry Stahlee, postmaster of Plano, Ill.; John and Thomas with the Independence Foundry, the latter of whom is superintendent; Ella, wife of T. C. Hatty, Independence; and D. H., subject of this sketch.

After coming to Independence in 1896, D. H. Crick was associated with his brothers in the foundry business until 1907. In that year he went to Harrisonville, Mo. and operated the Eagle Manufacturing Company until 1915. Disposing of his Harrisonville interests he returned to Independence and established his lumber business.

Mr. Crick was married in 1898 to Bernice Austin, a daughter of U. A. and Eliza Austin, the former of whom is living retired in Independence and the latter is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Crick have three daughters: Helen, her father's office assistant; Margaret, at home; Essabelle, born in Harrisonville, Mo., also at home.

Mr. Crick is a member of the Yeoman Lodge. He takes a commendable interest in civic affairs and is now serving his second term as a member of the Independence city council.

**Bert Peterson**, manager of the Independence Storehouse Co., was born at Harlan, Iowa, June 7, 1875. He is a son of Peter and Phoebe Angelina Peterson, both of whom are deceased, the former dying at Stewartsville in 1913 and the latter in Independence. They were parents of nine children. When he was a child, Mr. Peterson's parents removed from Iowa to Jackson County and he was reared and educated in this county. For 15 years he was engaged in the coal and feed business in this city under the name of Peterson Coal Company. He then traded his business for land in Kansas, 320 acres which he owns there, being near Garnett in the Kansas oil belt. After disposing of his own business he operated the coal and feed business owned by E. Downey until June, 1917. He then became manager of the Independence Storehouse Company, a company which is one of the large concerns of Independence with headquarters at the corner of Elm and Lexington streets. This concern has three buildings, and a stock of groceries is kept at the main building, together with coal, feed and building material. Another building is located at the corner of Lexington street and River boulevard and the third building is situated at the corner of Noland and Alton street. This company carries material and stock to the value of \$100,000 and does an extensive business. The Main building of the storehouse company was originally the Independence planing mill, the storehouse being owned by the Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints. It is a three story structure and with other buildings occupies a half block.

Mr. Peterson was married in 1898 to Margaret M. Friend of Stewartsville, Mo., a daughter of Jacob and Margaret Friend who reside in east



Independence. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have two children: Kenneth and Earl Chessel. The Peterson family residence is located at 1424 West Short street. Besides his home, Mr. Peterson owns three cottages on South College street and another residence property on West Walnut street.

**David Sample**, now deceased, was for many years actively identified with Jackson County, and was well known and prominent throughout this section of the State. He was born near Sulphur Springs, Morgan County, Ill., April 3, 1843, and departed this life Aug. 21, 1918. He was the son of William A. and Harriet (Moore) Sample, and was the eldest of six children born to them, as follows: David, the subject of this sketch; Martha, married Isaac Wood, Jacksonville, Ill.; Phoebe, married William Bagby, and is now deceased; Samuel, lives in Dallas, Texas; Granderson, Greenwood, Mo.; and George, deceased.

William A. Sample, father of David Sample, was born in Morgan County, Ill., Feb. 18, 1822, and died at Greenwood, Mo., Oct. 19, 1908. His wife Harriet (Moore) Sample, was born in Kentucky, Oct. 15, 1822, and died in Bates County, Sept. 21, 1875. William A. Sample came to Jackson County in 1867, and was engaged in farming and stock raising and also bought and sold stock in this county. He also lived in Texas for a time.

David Sample came to Jackson County in 1868, and first located on a farm a mile east of Greenwood; later he bought a farm of 160 acres, two miles east of Greenwood. This was heavily timbered land, and he cleared away the timber and improved the place, bringing it under a high state of cultivation, and at the time of his death it was one of the well improved and valuable farms of that locality. Like his father before him, David Sample was also extensively engaged in buying and selling livestock. In early life he was engaged in freighting in the West, with headquarters at Brownville, Neb., and in the capacity of freighter he made several trips across the plains. He was a Democrat, and took an active interest in local politics; he served as deputy assessor of Prairie township for four years. He was one of the organizers of the Lees Summit fair, and for 10 years served in the capacity of the marshal of the day when the Lees Summit fair was held. He was a consistent member of the Baptist church. During the last 10 years of his life he lived in Greenwood, and was engaged in the insurance business and was also a notary public. He followed these lines more to keep busy and have something to do than





DAVID SAMPLE.



for any other reasons. He was a man of great physical energy, and was never satisfied unless he was doing something.

Feb. 26, 1869, David Sample was united in marriage with Mary J. Boyer, a native of Morgan County, Ill., born Feb. 5, 1851. She is a daughter of Thompson and Sophrona (Luttrel) Boyer, who were also natives of Morgan County, Ill., where they spent their lives. To David Sample and wife were born three children, as follows: Clara B., deceased; Cora J., married J. H. Bowin, a sketch of whom appears in this volume; Maud E., married John W. Harris, and resides in Greenwood, Mo. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Sample makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. J. H. Bowin. David Sample will long be remembered in Jackson County as a citizen of real worth and high character.

**John Ganz.**—On Sept. 26, 1903, John Ganz, successful orchardist, living just east of Independence, came from Kansas City, where he had spent 16 years in the employ of the Kansas City street railways, bought 17½ acres of land, without any improvements, whatever. The first thing which he and Mrs. Ganz did was to build a home. However, they had to have some sort of shelter, so they pitched a tent while their first home, which is now used as a barn, was in process of erection. For the next 12 years this worthy couple lived in the "barn." They then built a handsome brick cottage, in 1915. During the course of 16 years, Mr. and Mrs. Ganz have created one of the most valuable properties in Jackson County—a country home so attractive and so "homey" looking that it elicits words of praise from passersby on the rock road. Mr. Ganz had very definite ideas about the things he wanted to do. While he made the land yield produce to provide for his family, he set out a fine orchard, which is now bringing in "golden" returns each year, and the bare land has increased in value as the years passed and the trees came into bearing, until it is probable that \$1,000 an acre would not purchase the Ganz orchards. Two acres of the place are in fruit trees. Mr. Ganz's specialty is the Stark Delicious, which matures in October, and sells for \$3.00 per bushel. While his apple trees were growing, Mr. Ganz gathered several crops of peaches which he had planted between the apple trees. From two trees of Yellow Transparents he sold 30 bushels at \$2.50 per bushel. The annual output of the orchard is about 1,000 bushels of apples. Other small fruits are grown in season on the Ganz farm.

John Ganz was born in Burlington, Iowa, in 1855. His parents were August F. and Anna Ganz, natives of Germany—hard working, thrifty



people, whose example instilled into their son a liking for honest toil and a desire to get ahead in the world. Mr. Ganz was married in Burlington, Iowa, April 4, 1886, to Miss Olivia Schwaller, who was also born in Burlington, Iowa, in 1864. She was a daughter of Joseph and Anna Schwaller, the former of whom was of Swiss origin and the latter a daughter of German parents. After one year's work in Burlington, as helper in a blacksmith shop, Mr. Ganz came to Kansas City, where he was employed as teamster for one year. He then began working on the old cable line, and for four years was employed on the turntable used in those days for turning the street cars. For a year he served as gripman and conductor, and was then employed as night foreman in the car barns for eight years. During these years of hard work, Mr. and Mrs. Ganz had been economical to the point of penury. They decided it was high time they got a permanent home—such a home as would suffice for their declining years, and eventually return for their efforts something more than a mere living. They purchased the land near Independence for \$2,625, built the barn, and began developing the property. The new home erected a few years ago cost them \$4,000, and everything about the Ganz place is in spick and span condition. Mr. and Mrs. Ganz have one son, Carl William Ganz, born in 1887.

**John T. Crenshaw**, retired farmer, of Blue Springs, has the distinction of having lived 74 years of his life in Jackson County, and has, therefore, grown old with the county. He was born in 1845, near Lone Jack, and is a son of Edward and Jane (Bynum) Crenshaw, both of whom were natives of Missouri, and both died in 1852. Left an orphan, when seven years of age, John T. Crenshaw was reared in the home of Silas Stovall, near Lone Jack, and made his home with the Stovalls until Mr. Stovall's death. When he was 12 years of age, he began to work out as a farm hand, and received the munificent wage of 20 cents per day. Mr. Crenshaw bought his first land in 1874, a small farm of 69 acres, in partnership with another person. Eight months later he sold this land, and then began buying his farm of 160 acres. The Crenshaw land is river bottom, located in Blue and Sniabar townships, and is rated as some of the most productive land in Missouri, producing from 75 to 80 bushels of corn to the acre. In 1918, Mr. Crenshaw turned over the active management of the farm to his sons and located in Blue Springs.

Mr. Crenshaw was married in 1874 to Miss Sallie Fisher, a daughter of George and Mary (Crow) Fisher, early settlers of Jackson County. The children born to this marriage are: Carl Nicholas, living on the home

farm, father of five children, Glenna, Carl, Jr., Chester, Clifford and Mary Frances; Mary Ellen, wife of Dr. Rowe, a surgeon in the United States Navy, has one child, Violet Rowe; Fannie, deceased wife of Fred Botts; Wallace B., lives on the farm.

Mr. Crenshaw is a Democrat, and a member of the Presbyterian church.

**Joseph J. Owens**, of Independence, Mo., is a native of Virginia, born in Loudoun County, Dec. 26, 1843. He came to Missouri and settled in Kansas City in 1866. He entered the drygoods business with Tootle, Hanan and Leach. Later, he moved to Texas and engaged in the wholesale grocery business. In 1873 he returned to Missouri. In 1882 he became one of the incorporators of the Robert Keith Furniture and Carpet Company, of Kansas City. In 1884 he removed to Independence, retiring from the mercantile business, and engaging in the real estate business, buying and selling real estate on his own account.

Mr. Owens married Miss Josie Landis, daughter of John and Lucinda Landis, of Independence. The living children of this marriage are: Dr. J. L. Owens, of Kansas City, Misses Agnes and Emma Owens. The home address of the Owens family is 404 North Spring street, Independence, Missouri.

**David C. Stayton**, breeder of Hereford cattle, proprietor of 187 acres of land on the rock road, three miles northwest of Blue Springs, Mo., was born on the Stayton homestead, two and a half miles east of Independence (now the Holke farm). He is a son of Arthur Stayton, concerning whom full information is given in the biographical sketch of Mrs. Sallie L. (Stayton) White, elsewhere in this volume.

David C. Stayton was educated in the public and high school of Independence, Mo., and has followed farming and stock raising during his active life, with the exception of two years in Kansas City, where he operated a grocery business, in partnership with a cousin. He moved from the old homestead to his present place in 1898, and for the past three years he has been specializing in the breeding of registered Hereford cattle. Mr. Stayton has a fine herd of 40 head at the present time, among which are some fine cattle, valued at over \$1,000 each. Mr. Stayton supplies the local demand for pure-bred Hereford and sells at prices ranging from \$400 to \$500 per head.

D. C. Stayton was married in 1889 to Miss Edna McVey, who died Oct. 29, 1910, leaving three children: Hugh Clayton, a farmer, at home;



Nina Grace, lives with her aunt, Mrs. Rose Borland, at Grain Valley, Mo.; Lester B., employed on the Corn farm, near Grain Valley.

Mr. Stayton's second marriage occurred in 1914, with Mrs. Martha (Mitchell) Kelly, a widow, and daughter of Reverend Mitchell, a minister of the Methodist church. By her first marriage Mrs. Stayton has one child, Ruby, wife of Robert Lyle, Kansas City, Mo.

Mr. Stayton is a Democrat, and is a member of the Baptist church.

**Judge A. P. Fonda**, justice of the peace, president of the Jackson County Boy Scouts of America, was born in Kansas City, Mo., in 1878. He is a son of A. P., Sr., and Laura D. (Wier) Fonda, the latter of whom was a daughter of Colonel Wier, who had charge of the erection of the Federal Prison at Leavenworth, Kan.

A. P. Fonda, Sr., was born at Cohoes, N. Y., in 1846, and died in 1893. He came to Jackson County in 1872, and operated the first wholesale grocery concern established in Kansas City. He was a son of Abraham Fonda, who assisted in laying out the town site of Kansas City, Mo. For many years prior to the incorporation of Kansas City, the village which later grew into the present great city, was called Fonda's Landing, and the name Fonda might have been given to the incorporated town had there not been so many jealousies among the early founders. Abraham Fonda died at Albany, N. Y. His father was a pioneer in New York State, and was given 600 acres of land near New Amsterdam by the King of England. He served as an officer in the Revolutionary War. Colonel Fonda, of Mississippi, a brother of A. P. Fonda, Sr., served with the Confederate forces during the Civil War. Captain John Fonda, another brother, and uncle of A. P. Fonda, of this review, served with the Union forces during the Civil War. It is a curious coincidence that A. P. Fonda, Sr., while serving with the Union forces in the Battle of Stone River, was captured by his brother, Colonel Fonda, and made a prisoner by the Confederates.

A. P. Fonda, subject of this review, attended the Marmaduke Military School, at Sweet Springs, Mo., and was a student when the Spanish-American War began. He tried to enlist for service with the American Army, but was refused on account of defective feet. He then went to Cuba as a representative of the Jacob Dold Packing Company. When the World War first began, Mr. Fonda was experimenting with explosives of his own invention, one of which he had perfected. He tried to enlist the interest of the Federal authorities in his inventions, but was turned down. However, his invention was later accepted by the British Army



authorities, and a sample of the explosive was sent to the Canadians and used by the Canadian forces on the Vimy Ridge charge. It is a Benzol-Phenol composition, and is very destructive to flesh and green foliage of all kinds when used. Later, Mr. Fonda developed Fondaol, a remedy and healing compound for the alleviation of burns and gun wounds of all kinds. Mr. Fonda has testimonials from officers of the medical corps of the U. S. Army, certifying to the wonderful curative effects of Fondaol.

In 1916, Mr. Fonda joined the National Security League, and during the progress of the war acted in various capacities. He was chairman of the Labor Board of Jackson County, and drew up the "work or fight" ordinance which was enacted into law in cities throughout the United States. When the Third Liberty Loan Drive was on in Kansas City, Mo., Mr. Fonda sold over \$3,000 worth of bonds in one block in Little Italy. He was appointed chairman of the Rating Committee of the Red Cross (outside of Kansas City) in Jackson County, and served as Food Administrator of the county. As chairman of the Victory Loan Committee for Blue township, he raised \$410,000, with an actual expense of \$80.50, as shown by the expense vouchers.

While acting as Food Administrator he confiscated sugar held by hoarders, and the confiscated sugar was sent to army camps and the Red Cross. While the World War was on, the Boy Scout movement received an added impetus, and Mr. Fonda attended the Scoutmaster School, organized in Kansas City, Mo. The first meeting held by the Boy Scouts on Scoutcraft was held at Mr. Fonda's place on the Lexington road, and every month during the war there was one or more encampments of the Boy Scouts on his place.

At a meeting held on Mr. Fonda's farm, the late Congressman William P. Borland addressed the Boy Scouts, and told them of the wonderful work he had seen done by them, and stated that it was "the third line of defense," next after the army and navy, and was the foundation of the recruiting element of both defensive arms of the government. He stated that not a single Boy Scout who had enlisted in the service from Jackson County and crossed the seas returned home as a private soldier—all had been promoted.

There are at the present time about 250 registered Boy Scouts in Jackson County, outside of Kansas City, divided into 21 troops. Mr. Fonda is president of the council.

Mr. Fonda served as justice of the peace at Sugar Creek when there were 14 saloons and eight gambling dens in operation. He acted as constable and marshal at the same time in several instances, and had some

interesting experiences during his efforts to maintain law and order. Before he left Sugar Creek he succeeded in cleaning up the lawless element, and made Sugar Creek a law abiding community. For the past eight years he has served as justice of the peace in Independence, and has the reputation of being one of the firmest, yet the fairest, of the judges in the county.

Mr. Fonda owns the old Wayne City landing place, and for the past three years 14 acres of this tract has been used as an outing and drill place by the Boy Scouts. Only recently, and in order to assist in alleviating the acute fuel shortage, due to the strike of the coal miners, Mr. Fonda has donated the timber on this tract to the city for wood, which was cut by the Boy Scouts and volunteer labor.

Mr. Fonda was married in 1909 to Cora P. Homan, of Carroll County, Mo., a daughter of William and Anna Homan, who reside in Carroll County. Mr. and Mrs. Fonda have two children: Nadine Fonda, and a foster son, named Paul, aged 11 years.

Mr. Fonda is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Blue Lodge, Palestine Commandery, the Mystic Shrine, Ararat Temple, and is a Mason of the Thirty-second degree. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. The Fonda residence is located on a tract of twenty acres on the Lexington road, the tract being a part of the old Cox farm, where the first distillery ever operated in Jackson County was located. The rock which forms the foundation of the new court house was quarried on this land.

**Chiswell D. Hudnall**, late well known resident of Sniabar township, was a native of Bedford County, Va. He was born in 1852, and departed this life in December, 1906, after years of successful endeavor as an agriculturist. He came to Missouri in 1869, and joined his brother, Robert Hudnall. He grew to maturity in Jackson County, and was married to Sarah F. Livesay, Nov. 18, 1886.

-- Sarah F. Livesay Hudnall is a member of one of the oldest of the pioneer families of this section of Missouri. She was born in this county, April 30, 1864, and is a daughter of William Livesay. William Livesay was one of the best known of the pioneer residents of this county. William Livesay was born in Virginia, Oct. 1, 1824, and in 1834 accompanied his parents to Lafayette County, Mo. Here he was reared and educated, and in 1846 went to Mexico, returning in the spring of 1847. In 1849 he took a trip to California, spent about two years in the gold mines, and



upon his return went again to Mexico, remaining from 1852 to 1853. He then came to Jackson County, and became owner of 247 acres of good land. The town of Levasy was situated upon part of his land, and is named in his honor. He died Sept. 17, 1897. In 1855 he was married to Miss Nancy Ward, born in Lafayette County, Mo., in 1833, and who departed this life in July, 1878. She was a daughter of David Ward, another pioneer, who assisted in platting the town of Independence. Eight daughters and three sons were born to William and Nancy Livesay, as follows: Anna May, resides in Jackson County; William S., died in 1878, at the age of 21 years; John Ward, Barton County, Mo.; Mary E., deceased; Sabina Fitch, Oklahoma; Mrs. Sarah Hudnall, of this review; Mrs. Rebecca H. Gibson, Independence, Mo.; Mrs. Marguerite Belle Morrison, Blue Springs, Mo.; Mrs. Lyda L. Searcy, Oklahoma; Fountain, living in Oklahoma; Mrs. Pearl E. Rogers, Independence.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Hudnall resided for 14 years on a farm north of Oak Grove. In the spring of 1900, they purchased the fine farm of 120 acres in Sniabar township, where Mrs. Hudnall is now living. They placed every improvement on this place, erecting all buildings excepting the house and making it one of the splendid farms of the neighborhood. Five children have been born to them, as follows: William J., Alexander W., Lucy, May, Olive R., and Maurice L. William J. Hudnall, managing the home place, was born Aug. 27, 1887, married Jessie VanMeter, and has five children: Helen, Horrell, Arnold, and twins, Clyde and Cora. Alexander W. Hudnall lives in Independence, married Marguerite Kerr, and has one child, Kenneth. Lucy May is the wife of Grover Ketterman, a farmer, Lone Jack. Mrs. Olive R. Lentz lives near Independence, and has two children, Chiswell Day and Naomi May. Maurice L. lives on part of the home farm, married Rachel Carr, and has two children, Robert and William.

The late Mr. Hudnall was a Democrat, and was a member of the Methodist church. He was industrious, enterprising, and was well liked and respected by the people of the neighborhood.

**John C. B. Hifner**, former merchant and stockman, Atherton, Mo., owner of 140 acres of land in Kansas and town property in Atherton, a large brick store and lodge building and residence property, was born in Lexington, Ky., April 4, 1856. He is a son of George Henry Hifner, a sketch of whom appears in this volume.

Mr. Hifner accompanied his parents to Jackson County March 10, 1870, and was reared on his father's farm. When his father operated a hemp mill at Missouri City as well as a tobacco factory, John C. B. Hifner



was one of the most capable workmen in his father's factories. He became also a successful farmer when the family removed to Jackson County. He engaged in the mercantile business in 1901 and built up one of the largest general stores in Jackson County prior to leaving the store in 1916, an injury to his head causing him to relinquish business cares. He disposed of his store June 1, 1916. Mr. Hifner owns the large brick store building in Atherton, two residence properties and a dwelling in Independence, and has done well.

Mr. Hifner was married Dec. 20, 1883 to Cordelia A. Beets, who was born in Kansas, March 17, 1859, a daughter of James Beets, an account of whom appears in this volume. She accompanied her parents to Jackson County in 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Hifner have children as follow: Nellie Lena, deceased; John Lloyd, at home and Russell A.

Russell A. Hifner is now employed in a sugar refinery at Scotts Bluff, Neb. He served with the Twentieth Engineer Corps of the United States army in France, enlisting Feb. 13, 1918 and received his honorable discharge from the service at Fort D. A. Russell, Wy., June 15, 1919.

The other children of the family are: Mrs. Lola Fern McClure, Franklin County, Mo.; Mrs. Blanche Pryor, Independence; and Garland, at home.

Mr. Hifner is independent in his political views. Mrs. Hifner is a member of the Methodist church and Mr. Hifner is liberal in his support of all denominations. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He served as school director from 1883 to 1909 and then resigned from the office. Since 1887 Mr. Hifner has been a notary public.

**William A. Turner**, farmer and stockman, of Blue township, has achieved a more than local reputation as a breeder of Duroc Jersey hogs. The Turner farm of 20 acres was purchased in 1917, and is a part of the old Hensley farm, and is situated at the intersection of the Atherton and Lexington roads. This farm is improved with a nice bungalow and two barns, and a modern hog house. The Turner herd of Durocs consists of ten brood sows, headed by "Pathfinder's Royalty", a magnificent specimen of Duroc, which measures 73 inches in length and 38 inches in height. The Turner farm has a four-acre orchard in bearing. Besides breeding fine hogs, Mr. Turner is also a breeder of White Leghorn chickens of the purest "Young" strain.

William A. Turner was born in Independence, Dec. 22, 1883, and is a son of Robert S. and Katherine B. (Anderson) Turner, the former of whom was born near Glasgow, Mo., and the latter is a native of Jackson County. Mrs. Turner died Aug. 1, 1900. Mr. Turner makes his home



REID S. AND WILLIAM A. TURNER.







with his children. Reid S. Turner, the other son of Robert S. Turner, resides on a farm in Blue township.

William A. Turner was educated in the public schools of Independence and Kansas City. He served as deputy assessor under Assessor Jack O'Brien, and moved to his present country home in 1917.

Mr. Turner was married in 1916 to Mary M. McClement, of Independence, a daughter of William H. and Elizabeth (Martin) McClement. Mr. McClement is a native of Pennsylvania, and upon coming to Missouri, he first settled at Butler, Mo., coming to Jackson County about 1899. Mrs. Mary M. Turner was born in Bates County, but was reared in Jackson County, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Turner have two sons, Robert Dennis, born April 21, 1917, and William A., Jr., born Oct. 25, 1919.

**Reid S. Turner**, breeder of Duroc Jersey swine, Blue township, is the owner of one of the finest herds of registered hogs in Jackson County. His herd consists of 150 head of pure-bred Durocs, headed by "Jacks Colonel Orion," sired by "Jacks Orion King, Second," bred and owned by the Longview Farms. The sires of his sows are "Great Sensation" and "Pathfinder." For five years past Mr. Turner has been breeding pure-bred Rhode Island Red poultry, and has specialized as a breeder of registered Durocs for the past two years. He has 20 brood sows in his pens, and is a successful breeder. Mr. Turner recently sold his 55-acre farm on the Lexington road with a view to buying a larger farm, whereon he can increase the size of his Duroc herd and engage in the production of the milking breed of Shorthorn cows.

Mr. Turner was born in Mexico, Mo., but was reared in Jackson County. He is a son of Robert S. and Katherine (Anderson) Turner, the latter of whom was a daughter of Matthew Anderson, former president of the First National Bank of Independence, and owner of several hundred acres of land in Jackson County. Further details concerning Robert S. Turner are given in the sketch of W. A. Turner.

Reid S. Turner was educated in the public schools of Independence and the Slater, Mo., High School. He served as deputy county collector of Jackson County for two years, under J. Q. Watkins, prior to engaging in livestock breeding as a life vocation.

Mr. Turner was married June 8, 1916, to Anna Summerfield, of Kansas City, Mo., a daughter of Emil Summerfield, who is the father of three children: Mrs. Marie Casey, Kansas City; Herman, Kansas City; and Mrs. Anna Turner, of this review.

Mr. Turner is a member of the Blue Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, a Knight Templar, and a member of the Mystic Shrine.

**Zachariah David Kettermen**, proprietor of a fine farm of 135 acres in Sniabar township, upon which he has resided since 1887, was born in 1846 in West Virginia. He is a son of Adam and Corinne (Bergdahl) Kettermen, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Pennsylvania, both of whom were of Pennsylvania German descent. They lived all of their days in Virginia, and reared a family of six children: Mrs. Barbara Ann Parsons, deceased; Jacob, who first settled in Jackson County, Mo., now resides in Cass County; Gabriel, is deceased; Z. T., of this review; Daniel, lives in Oklahoma; Adam, Jr., living on the old homestead in West Virginia.

Z. D. Kettermen left his old home in Virginia in 1869, and after spending a few months in Cass County, Mo., he came to Jackson County, and located on a farm one mile west of his present homestead. He rented land until he bought his home farm, in 1887. The Kettermen place is a beautiful one, the farm residence standing on a hill, surrounded by trees and shrubbery, and presents an attractive appearance from the highway.

Mr. Kettermen was married March 29, 1877, to Elvessa Shrout, who was born in Bath County, Ky., Nov. 1, 1857, a daughter of John H. and Janella (Richards) Shrout, who came to Jackson County from Kentucky in the fall of 1865. Ten children have been born to Z. D. and Elvessa Kettermen, as follows: Benjamin F., Nevada, Mo.; Virginia Belle, Hawes, Jackson County; Mrs. Roann Janella Rice, lives in Kansas; one child died in infancy; James Earl, lives in Ohio; Alice Pearl, twin of James, married a Mr. Frazier, and lives at Buckner, Mo.; Clory May Warner, lives in Chicago; David Floyd, is at home; Grover Cleveland, is at home; Mrs. Lula Baker, Blue Springs, Mo.; Lorena Elvessa, is at home.

David Floyd Kettermen, born Oct. 2, 1895, was a soldier in the National Army, Eighty-eighth division, and served in France. He was inducted into the service at Camp Dodge, Iowa, in June, 1918, crossed the Atlantic in August, 1918, and was on duty on the firing line when the armistice was declared. He returned home in June, 1919.

John H. Shrout, father of Mrs. Kettermen, was born July 8, 1830, and died Feb. 6, 1912. Mrs. Janella Shrout was born Jan. 30, 1836, and died Nov. 10, 1882. They first settled near Hickman's Mill, and after a five years residence there, they moved to Oak Grove, and later moved to the Kettermen neighborhood. Their children were: James Monroe, John Wesley, and Granville, living in Jackson County; Robert, Tulsa, Okla.; Oliver, deceased; Elvessa Kettermen, of this review; Sarah, deceased;



Alice, wife of James Montgomery, Blue Springs; Mrs. Rosa Holloway, deceased; Mrs. Myrtie Jones, Blue Springs.

Mr. Ketterman's father died Jan. 10, 1896, and his mother died May 11, 1879.

Mr. Ketterman is a Democrat, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**E. A. Carr.**—The best improved "eighty" in northeastern Jackson County, is the concensus of opinion given in regard to the Carr place in Fort Osage township, south of Buckner. This farm is devoted to the raising and feeding of livestock, and Mr. Carr has owned it since 1895. The farm is improved with a handsome eight-room residence, modern in every respect, which he erected in the fall of 1911. A basement runs underneath the residence. A large lawn, shaded by fine trees, fronts the house and everything is in spick and span condition. A large barn, 30 x 36 feet, and sheds erected in 1916 capable of sheltering 80 to 90 head of cattle, show the same care as the residence. Mr. Carr keeps on hand at all times from 30 to 50 head of cattle, 100 head of sheep, and from 125 to 150 head of hogs, of the Poland China breed. At the present time he is fattening 170 hogs for the market.

E. A. Carr was born in Bellefontaine, Ohio, in 1863, and is a son of Tillman and Caroline (Beckett) Carr, who moved to Pickaway County, Ohio, in 1866, and there lived the remainder of their days. E. A. Carr came west in search of a permanent home and fortune in 1885, without funds. He located in Jackson County, and for the first 12 years of his residence here he was employed at farm labor for \$17.00 per month. He saved his money, and purchased his farm of 80 acres, upon which he has erected valuable improvements. This farm is one of the most productive in the county, and the land has been known to produce 80 bushels of corn to the acre. A pumping system carries water to any and every part of the farm, and it is undoubtedly the most conveniently arranged and best equipped farm plant in Jackson County. It is conceded that the Carr farm is worth around \$500 an acre.

Mr. Carr was married in 1897 to Ida May Botts, who was born in Jackson County in 1876, and is a daughter of Romulus and Lena (Pearson) Botts, the latter of whom is living in Buckner, and the former is deceased.

Mr. Carr is a Democrat, and is known as a citizen who attends strictly to his own affairs in an industrious and capable manner. Mrs. Carr is a member of the Christian church.



**George W. Hagan**, a well known and successful farmer and stock breeder of Prairie township, Jackson County, is a native of this county and a son of one of the early pioneers and early day plainsmen of this section. He was born at Westport, which is now a part of Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 18, 1864. His parents were William and Sedalia (Wells) Hagan and he was the eighth in the order of birth of a family of 17 children, 10 of whom are now living.

William Hagan was born near Crabtree, Ky., May 15, 1829. In 1847, when he was about 18 years of age, he came to Missouri and settled near Lees Summit. He was a man who possessed the strong pioneer spirit of adventure and saw much of the West in the early days. He made a trip across the plains prior to the Civil War and two trips afterwards, serving as wagon master of the train. He shot a number of buffaloes during his trips across the plains. He was forced to leave his place during the Civil War on account of Order No. 11, but after the war returned to his farm, where he resided until 1892, when he moved to Lees Summit, where he died Nov. 13, 1916 as the result of an accident on the railroad crossing. On account of defective hearing, he failed to hear an approaching train, by which he was struck and died 13 days later. He had a very successful career and at the time of his death was the owner of 320 acres of land. He was a stanch Democrat during his active career and took a keen interest in public affairs. Sedalia Wells Hagan, mother of George W. Hagan, was born in Lee County, Va., May 18, 1831 and died in Jackson County, March 27, 1912.

George W. Hagan was reared on his father's farm in Prairie township and received his education in the district schools of Prairie township and the Lees Summit High School. In early life, he became familiar with the details of farming and stock raising and when 21 years of age began farming on his own account on rented land. He continued to operate rented land until his father's death, in 1916, when he inherited 40 acres of the home place, which he has since operated and upon which he has made extensive improvements, later buying 40 acres adjoining the estate. His home is a modern house with electric lights and equipped with hot and cold running water. Mr. Hagan also owns 80 acres of land in Virginia, located 50 miles west of Washington, D. C.

Mr. Hagan gives special attention to breeding pure bred Jersey cattle and has been successfully engaged in this field of animal husbandry for the past 27 years and during the course of that time he has sold a great many head of pure bred Jersey cattle, his stock always commanding a



MRS. WILLIAM HAGAN.



WILLIAM HAGAN.







high price. He began the breeding of Jersey cattle on a small scale in 1896, when he bought a pure bred Jersey cow "Queen Signal C". This animal was brought from Kentucky and owned by George Shawhan of Jackson County. In 1899, Mr. Hagan bought another pure bred Jersey cow, "Laura Cheiffoo", which was also brought from Kentucky in 1898. This was the beginning of Mr. Hagan's breeding industry, which has proven very satisfactory and profitable.

April 20, 1887, George Hagan was united in marriage with Virginia L. Prather, who was born in Lawrence, Kan. and reared from the age of one year in Cass County, Mo. She is a daughter of Laban A. and Frances (Embery) Prather, natives of Virginia, and both now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Hagan have been born the following children: Thetis, married J. A. McDaniel, and they reside in Prairie township; Ruth married Leland Dillman, Richmond, Ind.; Juliet, married Lester Mathias, Kansas City, Mo.; and George, who was born June 26, 1896, resides at home with his parents. During the World War, he enlisted in the United States marines and was sent to Quantico, Va., and served in the heavy artillery on the coast defense. He was discharged Jan. 8, 1919.

Mr. Hagan is a Democrat and a member of the Baptist church. The Hagan family stand high in the community and George W. Hagan ranks as one of Jackson County's leading citizens.

Charles W. Ryan, the oldest pioneer resident of Levasy, Mo., in point of years of residence in that vicinity, is a native of Virginia. He was born in Montgomery County, Va., in 1851, and accompanied his parents, John D. and Susan Jane (Fisher), to Jackson County, Mo., in 1859, landing from the steamboat Isabella, Sept. 15, 1859.

During the ensuing winter the family lived on a place one mile south of Levasy. In March, 1860, John D. Ryan settled on the William Isch place, where they resided until the burning of the home, in March, 1863. Then they moved to a place two and a fourth miles northwest of Levasy, where the father died, June 14, 1863. Mrs. Susan J. Ryan was born in 1828, and died in 1867. Six children were left orphans: Mrs. Sarah Frances Vandegriff, now of Cherryvale, Kan.; Charles W. Ryan, of this review; Robert R., died in 1910; James A., Silver Creek, Colo.; Samuel, died in 1876; Mrs. Mary H. Costello, lives two and a half miles southwest of Levasy.

The situation in Jackson County not being very favorable for their remaining longer in the county, on account of the war conditions, the Ryan family moved over to Napoleon, in Lafayette County. In the spring of

1864 they returned to the county, and settled on the Dr. Black farm, two miles west of Levasy. In 1866 they settled on the William Hanley farm. In 1868 they removed to Lafayette County, and when the family ties were broken by the death of the mother, Charles W. Ryan began doing for himself, and hired out at farm labor. Mr. Ryan worked at farm labor until he was 23 years of age, and in 1874 he rented a farm for seven years, his sister serving as his housekeeper. In 1882, he went to Colorado, and remained there for a year. In 1894, he bought his first farm of 60 acres. In 1898, he purchased Fish Island, in the Missouri River, consisting of 530 acres, and farmed this island until the great flood of 1903. This island is now covered with grasses and timber, and Mr. Ryan leases it out for this purpose. In 1913 he retired from active farming, and in 1917 he leased his island to Walter Phillips, of Buckner. For some time Mr. Ryan served as president of the Bank of Levasy.

He is a Democrat, and formerly took an active part in Democratic politics. He is a member of the Christian church, and is one of the well respected and favorably known citizens of his section of Jackson County.

**Leo Allen**, owner of a fine farm of 120 acres in Fort Osage township, upon which he has resided since the spring of 1903, is an industrious and successful agriculturist. Mr. Allen purchased his farm in 1903, and has remodeled and modernized the residence; in fact, he has transformed the place in many ways, which have added to its value and productivity. The Allen farm was formerly the James place, owned by a cousin of Frank James.

Mr. Allen was born Jan. 1, 1872, in Ray County, Mo. He is a son of Reuben and Maria (Offitt) Allen, both of whom were born and reared in Ray County, the children of pioneer parents. Reuben Allen was a son of Reuben Allen, of eastern birth and parentage. Reuben Allen, father of Leo Allen, of this review, was born in 1841, and died in September, 1917. Maria Allen, his wife, died in 1875. They were the parents of five children: Louisa Jane, deceased; Mrs. Lena Rivers Culver, Kansas City, Kan.; Leo Allen, of this review; William R., Ray County, Mo. In his later years, Mr. Allen moved from his farm to Excelsior Springs, Mo. From Excelsior Springs, he went to Kansas City, where he remained for two years, and then returned to the farm, where he died. By a second marriage with Pocahontas Hewlitte, he was the father of five children: Mrs. Rhoda Ann Tresler, Kansas City, Mo.; Thomas B., a farmer in Ray County; John D., a farmer in Clay County; Bettie, died in infancy, as did another child.

Leo Allen was educated in the district schools, and has always fol-



lowed farming pursuits. He was married in 1890 to Miss Paralee Sheriff, who was born in Jackson County, a daughter of Isaac and Helen (Sutton) Sheriff, of Ray County, who now live in Sibley. Mrs. Paralee Allen died in 1908. His second marriage was with Miss Alta Laferne, in 1908. Mrs. Alta Allen and Mr. Allen were separated. In 1915 Mr. Allen married Miss Mattie Belle Mitchell, who was born and reared in Ray County, a daughter of Richard and Rebecca Jane (Cowley) Mitchell, the latter of whom is deceased.

Although Mr. Allen is comparatively a new comer in Jackson County, he has a wide and favorable acquaintance throughout his section of Jackson County, and is recognized as an industrious and very successful citizen.

**Charles Arthur Johnson**, owner of a well improved and finely equipped farm of 160 acres in Fort Osage township, was born in a log house in Jackson County, on the banks of the Missouri River, Dec. 8, 1878. No trace of the farm upon which he was born remains. It was known as the old Nebuchadnezer Dixon farm, and has since been washed away by the Missouri River.

John Johnson, father of Charles Arthur Johnson, was born in Ohio, in 1854. His wife was Edwina Neal, born in Ray County, Mo. John Johnson was a son of Henry Johnson, who came to Missouri in the fifties. He resided in Jackson County until 1904, when he went to Arizona. Mrs. Johnson died in 1890. Their children were as follows: Charles A., of this sketch; James, lives in Oregon; Mina, wife of L. J. Jones, Fort Osage township; Clara, wife of F. C. Harra, cashier of a bank at California, Mo. Mr. Johnson was three times married—a daughter, Edwina, lives with Miss Mina Jones.

Charles A. Johnson was reared in Jackson County, and attended the common schools. When nine years old he began working at farm labor, and he began supporting himself when yet in his teens. He remained at home and assisted his father until he was 22 years old. After his marriage, in 1901, he rented land. He purchased his farm in the fall of 1904, and moved thereon in March, 1905. He has done considerable improving on the place, one of the new structures being a brick silo. Mr. Johnson is farming a total of 500 acres of land in the vicinity.

He was married on Nov. 6, 1901, to Miss Georgia Wood, born in Jackson County, a daughter of George and Jennie (Crow) Wood, the latter of whom was a daughter of Uncle Jake Crow, one of the best known of the pioneer citizens of Jackson County, and a famous pulpit exhorter. Mr.



and Mrs. Johnson have two children: William E., aged 17 years; and Nellie Fay, aged 14 years.

Mr. Johnson is a Democrat, and is a member of the Methodist church. His record in the agricultural and livestock raising field of Jackson County speaks for itself. Everything which Mr. Johnson possesses he has earned for himself.

**Greenville Hulse**, farmer and real estate dealer, Oak Grove, Mo., is a native of Jackson County. He was born on a farm four miles north of Oak Grove, Sept. 13, 1845. His father was Samuel D. Hulse, who was born in Tennessee, and moved to Kentucky with his parents when a boy. He was reared to young manhood in that State, and came to Missouri about 1833. He first located in Clay County, and in 1840 settled in Snia-bar township, Jackson County, where he became the owner of nearly 600 acres of land.

The elder Hulse was married in Missouri, Oct. 15, 1840, to Jane B., a daughter of Griffith Dickerson, a native of Virginia, and a Jackson County pioneer. Samuel D. Hulse was on his way to Missouri on board of a river steamboat, near Wayne City, during the year of the "shooting stars," in 1833. He reared the following children: Mrs. Almeda Perry, died in 1916; Melville, died in Independence, in March, 1919; Greenville, subject of this review; Arista, living at Oak Grove. Samuel D. Hulse died July 9, 1883. Mrs. Jane B. Hulse was born Feb. 13, 1819 and died in 1916.

The lure of the great plains drew Greenville Hulse during his younger days, and he became a plains freighter, making trips to the far west in 1863, 1864, 1865 and 1866. His first trip took him to Denver, Colo., in the employ of A. & P. Byrum, the wagon master of the train being John S. Renick. In 1864 he made a trip to Salt Lake City with William Livesay, having spent the previous winter in herding cattle on the Arkansas River. After spending the winter on the Arkansas River, near Pueblo, Colo., he returned to Atchison, Kan., and the train was outfitted there. When they arrived at Plumb Creek, on the Platte River, they learned that Indians had captured a train of nine wagons. This caused he and his comrades to redouble their vigilance to guard against a surprise attack from the Indians, and they never relaxed their vigilance night nor day during the remainder of the trip. During 1865, Mr. Hulse freighted to Denver, Julesburg, and other points in Colorado. In 1866, he became part of an outfit on the Smoky River, which was hauling supplies to the government forts. On the Crazy Woman's Fork on Powder River, Indians stampeded



GREENVILLE HULSE





a train of government mules and killed many soldiers. This trouble was due to the negligence and arrogance of an army lieutenant in command of the soldiers. Nine Indians subsequently followed the train with which Mr. Hulse was connected as far as Fort Laramie, but did not offer to molest them, riding in on a flag of truce.

The year 1866 saw the end of Mr. Hulse's freighting days, and he then settled down to farming and stock raising, in which vocation he has achieved a more than ordinary success. He began with 100 acres, and accumulated over 1,000 acres. He has given each of his children a fine farm of 120 acres, and still owns 200 acres of very valuable land, 40 acres of which is located near Raytown, in Brooking township, and likewise near the Kansas City line. Since 1913, Mr. Hulse has resided in Oak Grove, where he has one of the fine residences in Jackson County, and handles farm land and real estate.

April 15, 1869, Mr. Hulse was married to Miss Ida Jane Conard, who was born June 2, 1848, and died Sept. 30, 1908. She was a daughter of Abner A. and Anna S. Conard, who came from their native Virginia to Jackson County in early days. Eleven children blessed this marriage, of whom four died in infancy, the others are: Minnie H., Oak Grove, Mo.; Charles H., a widower, Olathe, Kan.; Delbert T., traveling adjuster for a life insurance company, Mobile, Ala.; Luella, wife of Charles Morgan, living near Oak Grove on part of the Hulse homestead; Leroy C., a farmer living on the Hulse land; Melville V., employed by the Standard Oil Company; Elsie A., married Ewing Axline, daughter of Judge Axline, and lives at Wellsville, Kan.

On March 26, 1912, Mr. Hulse was married to Mrs. Georgia F. Guy, a widow, and a daughter of Willis D. Round, of Jackson County. Mrs. Georgia F. Hulse was born near Lone Jack, Mo., April 24, 1869.

Mr. Hulse is a Republican, and is a member of the Methodist church. He is a Jackson County citizen of worth and prestige, and has the respect and high esteem of his fellow men.

**Robert Blackburn.**—One of the remarkable successes in the agricultural and livestock field that has been accomplished in Jackson County in the space of a few years, is that of Robert Blackburn, of Fort Osage township. Mr. Blackburn is proprietor of Oak Hill, a place of 160 acres, improved with a large, white house, which sets in a grove of trees, and which is devoted to stock raising. Mr. Blackburn owns in addition to this, 200 acres of rich bottom land near Lake City.

Robert Blackburn was born Nov. 18, 1877, in Laclede County, Mo.

He is a son of McCarter and Angeline (Hogue) Blackburn, natives of North Carolina, who came from their native State in 1861, and settled in Laclede County with their respective parents. They were reared in Laclede County. During his later years, the elder Blackburn went to California, and still makes his home in that State.

When 19 years of age, Robert Blackburn came to Jackson County (1896), and worked out as a farm hand. During his first year he received 65 cents per day. He saved all of his money except a small amount for his school expenses during the winter season. He rented a piece of ground, purchased a pair of mules, and gave his note for \$200 for payment for the team. He had a bad year, but made some money, and sold the mules at a profit of \$15. He rented land for five years, saved his money, and invested it in land. He first bought a tract south of Lake City, consisting of 108 acres, paying \$1,000, borrowing the balance of \$5,000. He sold this farm a few years later for \$100 an acre. He then bought 160 acres at a cost of \$125 an acre in 1906. His next purchase was 200 acres in 1914, at a cost of \$100 an acre. The Blackburn land is now worth from \$250 to \$300 an acre.

Mr. Blackburn was married on Oct. 3, 1900, to Miss Ethel Smith, who was born in Laclede County, Mo., a daughter of William and Eglandine Smith, both of whom are deceased. Two children have been born to this marriage: Crayton, aged 16 years; and Margaret Eglandine, aged eight year.

Mr. Blackburn is a Democrat. He is a member of the Baptist church, and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Modern Brotherhood.

**George A. James**, owner of a splendid farm of 263 acres in Fort Osage township, was born in Jackson County, Jan. 25, 1874. He is a son of the late Julius W. James, who was born in Indiana in 1837, and died in Jackson County, Mo., in 1905.

Although born and reared to young manhood in Indiana, Julius W. James was a son of Southern born parents. He was imbued with the righteousness of the Southern cause, and acted accordingly. He went to Kentucky and enlisted under the banner of Gen. John Morgan, and served in Tennessee and Ohio, taking part in Morgan's raid through Ohio. He was twice captured, and on two occasions was held in Federal prisons. He fought at the Battle of Murfreesboro and Nashville, and campaigned in the Cumberland Mountains.

After the war, he settled down to the peaceful pursuit of farming,



and was married in Kentucky, in 1866, after which he came to Jackson County, made a home for his family, and became the owner of a farm. His wife was Emily Gibson James, who was born in 1840, and died in 1907. They were the parents of eight children, six of whom were reared: Lulu, wife of Clinton A. Winfred, of Fort Osage township; Mrs. Emma McMillan, living north of Grain Valley; Nannie and Ida James, live at Buckner; George A., of this review; Ernest, living on a farm near Woodland school.

George A. James was educated in Prairie school, and the Buckner public schools. When he was 23 years of age he rented a farm, and continued farming on rented land until he made his first purchase of 85 acres, in 1901. He later sold this farm at a profit, and then bought 121.5 acres of his present farm, in Fort Osage township. Some years afterward he added to this farm another tract of 142.5 acres, situated on the north side of the road. Mr. James is a successful farmer and stockman, and is making a specialty of raising and feeding Hampshire hogs and cattle.

He was married in 1898 to Elizabeth Helen Sullivan, who was born in Jackson County, a daughter of John Sullivan, deceased. Four children were born of this union, as follow: Forrest, Emily, Georgia, and Julius.

Mr. James is a director of the Bank of Buckner, and is a rising, substantial citizen of industry and acumen. He is a Democrat, and a member of the Sibley Lodge of Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

**John W. Davis**, farmer and stockman, proprietor of 162 acres in Blue township, which are owned jointly by Mr. Davis and his sisters, is a member of one of the oldest of the pioneer families of Jackson County. Mr. Davis is living on land which was entered by his grandfather, Joseph Glenn, sometime in the early thirties. He owns 40 acres of the original Glenn homestead. Mr. Davis was born on the place where he is now living northwest of Atherton, Mo., March 29, 1855.

His father, Albert Davis, was born in Hawkins County, Tenn., in 1832, and died in December, 1876. He was a son of William Davis a native of Hawkins County, Tenn. and whom emigrated from Tennessee to Missouri in 1848. After he had attained young manhood, William Davis married Mary Glenn Davis, born in 1820, and died in 1901 at the age of 81 years. She was a daughter of Joseph Glenn, one of the first of the Jackson County pioneers, who first settled in Boone County, Mo., where Mrs. Mary Davis was born and then came to Jackson County.

During the Civil War, Albert Davis was enrolled with the Missouri State Guards. His entire life was devoted to farming pursuits. He



reared a family of four children, as follow: John W., subject of this review; Eliza F., housekeeper on the home place; George W., a farmer living in Blue township; and Mrs. Mollie P. Boone, Independence, Mo.

Mr. Davis is a Democrat of the old school. He is industrious, enterprising and is one of the best citizens of his neighborhood. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

**Cloyd E. Allen.**—The Allen-Graves Tire Company, located at No. 213 West Maple street, is one of the thriving commercial concerns of Independence. This firm was organized Aug. 1, 1919, by Cloyd E. Allen and J. T. Graves, and does general tire and tube repair work. They are dealers in the Gates Half Sole and the Gates Double Mileage Tires, the shop being fully equipped for handling the Gates products and half soling tires according to the Gates method. The Gates Half Sole has a guarantee of 5,000 miles, and will easily give from 6,000 to 10,000 miles of service. This firm also handles the Ten-Broeck tires, and other well known makes, and are building up a splendid trade among automobile owners of this vicinity.

Cloyd E. Allen was born in Rockville, Mo., April 3, 1896, and is a son of F. R. and Iva D. (Cloyd) Allen, a sketch of whom appears in this volume in connection with that of Capt. William R. Allen. The subject of this sketch was educated in the public schools of Butler, Mo., and during the summer of the past year he has been studying aviation. Mr. Allen made an effort to become a member of the aviation corps of the National Army, and all but succeeded. He was on his way to Kelly Flying Field, in Texas, when the armistice was signed, and the World War came to an end.

While this put a damper upon his ambition to become an aviator in the service of his country, he has been studying the science of flying in the air, and has been flying during the past season in a Curtiss biplane.

Mr. Allen was married July 25, 1918, at Rockville, Mo., to Rogenia Morris, of Rockville, a daughter of T. W. Morris, a produce buyer and dealer, of that place. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have a daughter, Celestine. The Allen residence is at 306 West White Oak street. Mr. Allen is a member of Yeomen Lodge, No. 303, of Independence.

**James T. Graves**, a member of the firm of Allen-Graves Tire Company, 213 West Maple street, Independence, Mo., was born March 12, 1887, in Woodford County, Ky., and is a son of James C. and Mary E. (Huggins) Graves, a sketch of whom appears in this volume.

James T. Graves, of this review, was educated in the schools of

Guthrie, Okla., and was brought up in the business of breeding and training of harness and saddle horses, a vocation in which his father, James C. Graves, has won a nation-wide reputation. He came to Jackson County in 1914, and for the past two years has been engaged in the business of selling automobile tires. He joined the firm of Allen-Graves Tire Company in August, 1919, and is doing his part in making this concern one of the live, aggressive and successful business concerns of the city.

Mr. Graves was married June 12, 1912, to Miss Effie V. Wilson, of Lexington, Ky. Mrs. Effie Graves was formerly a teacher in the commercial department of Transylvania University in Kentucky. She died in 1916.

Mr. Graves was again married to Miss Louise Sparks, of Nicholasville, Ky., in 1917. She is a daughter of Nimrod and Susan (Huggins) Sparks, who reside at Nicholasville. One child has been born to this marriage, Mary Louise. By his first marriage Mr. Graves has one child, Valarie Dee.

Mr. and Mrs. Graves reside at 1003 Dodgin street, Independence. They are members of the Baptist church.

**Jack Sewell**, retired farmer, 813 South Park street, Independence, Mo., was born in Shelby County, Ky., March 28, 1864. Dr. Franklin Lewis Sewell, his father was born in Fairfax County, Va., in 1825, removed with his parents to Kentucky, was educated for the profession of medicine and in 1871, migrated to Jackson County and located on a farm in Blue township, south of Independence. This farm is now owned by Ed Witte. After leaving the farm, Dr. Sewell resided in Independence for two years and then built a residence in Englewood, on Wayne avenue, where he resided for five years prior to his death in 1904. The mother of Jack Sewell was Elizabeth (Baird) Sewell, also a native of Shelby County, Ky. She died when the subject of this sketch was but six weeks old. By a later marriage with Elizabeth Gale, Dr. Sewell was father of a son, Joseph Sewell, who died at Long Beach, Cal. at the age of 46 years.

Jack Sewell graduated from the Independence High School and during his active life he followed farming in Jackson County. He is now living retired in his comfortable home at 813 South Park street. Mr. Sewell was married on June 7, 1885 to Nora B. Smith, who has borne him two children, Frank and Sybyl Sewell. Nora B. Smith's father was Dr. Minor T. Smith who was born near Lexington, Ky. and came to Jackson County in the early days when land was still open for entry. He lived on a farm near Raytown and practiced medicine for many years,



dying at the age of 88 years in December, 1914. He was a veteran of the Mexican War and was wounded in the knee at the capture of Vera Cruz. His wife, Catherine (Beckham) Smith, was reared in Jackson County and died at the age of 42 years. The children of the Smith family were: Mrs. J. G. Hoff, Independence; Hubbard T., deceased; Henry H., Los Angeles, Cal.; Nora B. Sewell, of this sketch; Fleetwood Smith, whose whereabouts are unknown; Brooking C., Phoenix, Ariz. By a later marriage with Laura Hunter, Dr. Smith had a son and daughter, Laura, wife of Dr. Kenyon, superintendent of the County Home; and Edwin L., Raytown, Mo.

Dr. Frank Sewell, with offices in the Owens Building, was born on a farm near Independence. He was educated in the public schools and the Raytown High School and studied for two years in William Jewell College. He graduated from the medical department of the University of Tennessee in 1915 and began the practice of his profession in Kansas City, later removing to Humboldt, Kan. and thence to Malta Bend from which city he enlisted in the Medical Corps of the United States army during the World War. He was first stationed at Fort Oglethorpe, then sent to Camp Beauregard, La., and from there he was sent to Camp Upton, Long Island from which point he embarked for overseas in November, 1918. He served in France with Base Hospital No. 11, at Brest. He also served at Bordeaux and was also on detached service. Dr. Sewell returned home on July 1, 1919 and resumed his practice in August, 1919.

George W. St. Clair, farmer and stockman, Blue township, owner of 175 acres, in the valley of the Little Blue, is a native of Jackson County. He was born April 25, 1871, on a farm southeast of Blue Springs. He is a son of Joseph V. St. Clair, who was born June 3, 1844, and died Dec. 16, 1918. He was a native of Jackson County, and a son of George W. and Caroline St. Clair, both of whom were natives of Virginia. George W. St. Clair emigrated from Virginia in the early forties, and settled on land southeast of Blue Springs, in Sniabar township. He was the father of 14 children, of whom eight were reared to maturity, as follow. Robert, Joseph V., Nannie, Isabel, Elizabeth, Mattie, and Charles L. M. St. Clair.

Joseph V. St. Clair was reared to young manhood in the county of his birth. He served in the Civil War as a soldier under Gen. Joe Shelby and General Price. He joined the Confederate forces after the battle of Lexington and fought at the battle of Westport, taking part in Price's memorable retreat to the South, and in subsequent engagements, surrendering at Shreveport with Price's army. After the close of the war



he settled down to the peaceful pursuit of agriculture in his home county and accumulated a fine farm southeast of Blue Springs. He was married in 1850 to Alice Broaddus who now makes her home in Blue Springs. She was born in Lafayette County, a daughter of D. R. Broaddus, a Missouri pioneer.

The children born to Joseph V. and Alice St. Clair are as follow: George W., of this review; Dr. R. L. St. Clair of Kansas City; Lucy, Lura, Mattie, Callie and Ruth, deceased. The St. Clair farm southeast of Blue Springs consists of 260 acres besides a 12 acre tract at Blue Springs. Mr. St. Clair was successful as a farmer and stock raiser. During the last 29 years of his life he made his home in Blue Springs. He was a Baptist and a strong churchman, serving as clerk of the Blue Springs Baptist church for several years.

After completing the course of study in the Blue Springs public schools George W. St. Clair studied in the State Normal College at Chillicothe, Mo. He then engaged in farming. He purchased his present farm in the valley of the Little Blue in 1902 and has placed all of the existing improvements on the place which is improved with two dwelling houses.

Mr. St. Clair was married in 1905 to Miss Ida Campbell who was born near Olathe, Kan., a daughter of James S. Campbell living northeast of Blue Springs. By a prior marriage to William Johnson, Mrs. St. Clair has two children: Ward H. Johnson and James S. Johnson. The latter is assisting in the cultivation of the St. Clair farm as a full partner. Ward H. Johnson is a farmer located one-half mile west of the St. Clair place. Mr. St. Clair is father of one child, Alta Alice, born Oct. 15, 1906.

Mr. St. Clair is a Democrat and is well and favorably known throughout Jackson County. He is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and is affiliated with the Odd Fellows Lodge of Blue Springs.

**Nathaniel Curtis Scoville**, now deceased, was for many years prominently identified with Jackson County in various ways. He was a native of New York, born in February, 1843. He was reared and educated in the east and studied law. He practiced his profession for a number of years in Kansas City and in 1875 removed to Lees Summit, Mo., where he devoted the remainder of his life to the fruit industry and was one of the successful orchardists in that section.

Nathaniel Curtis Scoville married Susan Elizabeth Perkins, a native of Jackson County, Mo. and a daughter of Jesse G. and Mary (Cook) Perkins. A more extensive history of the Perkins family appears in this volume in connection with the biographical sketch of Z. T. Perkins. To

Nathaniel Curtis Scoville and wife was born one child, Mrs. Jessie Robinson, who is the mother of five children and now resides in Kansas City, Mo.

Nathaniel Curtis Scoville was a highly educated man and had an extensive acquaintance and many friends in Jackson County. He died in 1904 at the age of 61 years and his widow, Mrs. Susan E. Scoville, now resides at Lees Summit, Mo.

**James A. DeWitt.**—During 20 years of residence on his fine farm at Selsa, in Blue township, James Andrew DeWitt has built up one of the beautiful and attractive homesteads in Jackson County. The vine covered cottage which is the home of Mr. DeWitt stands on a rise of ground overlooking the Little Blue river valley, and presents a restful and pretty sight. The DeWitt farm consists of 150 acres, which embraces the town site of Selsa.

James A. DeWitt was born Aug. 13, 1859, on a farm within one and a half miles of his present home. He is a son of Daniel and Caroline (Lowe) DeWitt, natives of Kentucky and Virginia, respectively, and who were pioneers of Jackson County.

Daniel DeWitt was born July 7, 1816, and died April 30, 1888. In 1836, Daniel DeWitt left Kentucky to seek a home in the newer country to the north and west. He went first to Illinois, but later he came to Missouri. He followed his trade of carpenter, and after his marriage, on Feb. 1, 1849, he entered a tract of land now known as the old DeWitt home place. Mr. DeWitt was for many years a successful builder and contractor. He erected several of the first wooden bridges in the county, a few of which are still standing. During the Civil War he avoided getting into trouble as much as possible, and suffered but a short term of imprisonment in the guard house at Independence. When Order No. 11 was issued, he took his family with him to Pike County, Ill., and remained there for six months. His wife, Caroline (Lowe) DeWitt, was born in Virginia, Dec. 7, 1830, a daughter of John and Margaret Lowe, who settled in Jackson County in 1844. (See sketch of John Louis Lowe.) The children born to Daniel and Caroline S. (Lowe) DeWitt are as follows: Margaret Ollie, deceased; Mrs. Mary F. Paradice, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Susan Z. White, near Blue Springs; John D., on the home place with his mother; James Andrew, subject of this review; Vilenna L., wife of William Hunter, who is managing the DeWitt home place; Lura, wife of H. J. Binger, a farmer of Sniabar township; Samuel L., near Blue Springs. By a former



marriage with a Miss Robertson, he had one child, Mrs. Nancy Hartsock, a widow, living in Iowa.

James A. DeWitt studied in the Kirksville Normal College after attending the district school of his neighborhood, and then taught one term of school. His first farm was a 40-acre tract, located in section 22, township 49, range 31. After locating on his present place, he sold this farm. The DeWitt farm is located in sections 20 and 21, township 49, range 31. The Selsa store is located on this farm. For a short time after his marriage, Mr. DeWitt lived in Kansas City. He next rented a farm and then owned property on West College street, in Independence, where he removed from his farm in 1907. After his return to the farm, he sold his residence in the city. In 1916, he purchased a residence on East Rubey street, but sold this in September, 1919.

Aug. 10, 1887, Mr. DeWitt was married to Laura A. Deardurff, a daughter of Gen. Daniel and Elizabeth (Cummins) Deardurff, who came to Jackson County from Ohio, after the Civil War. Colonel Deardurff was a colonel of an Ohio regiment during the Civil War, and was breveted a brigadier-general for his services in behalf of the Union. He died in 1895. Five children have been born to James A. and Laura A. DeWitt, three of whom are living: Cleora F., is deceased; Ruby E., is the wife of Dr. Sterling P. Simmons, of Marshall, Mo.; J. Roger DeWitt, lives in North Platte, Neb., married Mary Mildred Zick, a daughter of Bernard Zick, Jr.; one child died in infancy; Robert A., the youngest child, is aged five years. The mother of the foregoing children died Oct. 24, 1919, and her remains were laid to rest in the Blue Springs cemetery.

Mr. DeWitt is a Democrat, and is a member of the Baptist church. He is a well informed and industrious citizen.

**Robert Samuel Kimsey**, proprietor of a fine farm of 74 acres in Fort Osage township, which he is cultivating together with a tract of 52 acres located near Lake City, in the same township, was born in a log cabin on the same site of his present home, June 20, 1869. Mr. Kimsey is a descendant of some of the first pioneers of Jackson County, his grandfather, Samuel Kimsey, having settled in this county during the early thirties on a place including R. S. Kimsey's present home.

The parents of Robert S. Kimsey were James W. and Missouri (Hudspeth) Kimsey, the former of whom is deceased and the latter is still living, one of the oldest of the pioneer women of Jackson County. Mrs. Kimsey was born Nov. 29, 1837 on a pioneer farm in Jackson County and is a sister of Thomas B. Hudspeth, a sketch of whom appears in this history.



James W. Kimsey was born in the northern part of Fort Osage township in 1839 and died on Jan. 22, 1893. He was a son of Samuel Kimsey, a native of Alabama, who married Emily Connor, daughter of an early pioneer and located on a farm in Fort Osage township.

James W. Kimsey was reared in Jackson County. He enlisted under Gen. J. O. Shelby and General Price at the outbreak of the Civil War and served for four years with the Confederate forces, surrendering at Shreveport, La. After the war was over he returned home and settled down to farming. He resided upon the farm now owned by his son, Robert Samuel Kimsey. He was married Sept. 15, 1868 to Miss Missouri Hudspeth, who bore him two children: Robert Samuel, of this review; and Sallie, who died at the age of 11 years. Mr. Kimsey was a lifelong Democrat, who was widely and favorably known in his section of Jackson County and was an excellent citizen.

Robert S. Kimsey attended the old Academy School and has always been a farmer. His early education was mostly obtained in log school houses. With the exception of two years spent in Colorado and California in 1889 and 1890, he has always lived in Jackson County.

Mr. Kimsey was married Oct. 23, 1893 to Miss Elizabeth Carpenter, who was born July 24, 1874 in Cass County, Mo. She is a daughter of O. A. and Sarah Ellen (Chiles) Carpenter, the former of whom was born in Independence, Aug. 15, 1844 and is now residing in Cass County. He is a son of James Crandall and Lamira Ann (Overton) Carpenter, the former of whom was born at Providence, R. I. His wife, Lamira Ann (Overton) Carpenter was born near old Fort Osage, now Sibley, in 1825, and was a daughter of Aaron Overton, one of the first pioneers of Jackson County who entered land near the present site of Sibley, Mo., while U. S. soldiers were stationed there guarding the early settlers from attacks or raids by unfriendly Indians.

J. C. Carpenter was a contractor and builder, one, who in the old days, knew his trade from tree trunk to the finished product of his skill. He was one of the original "forty-niners," hiring his tool chest hauled in one of a train of wagons starting at Weston's blacksmith shop in Independence, himself riding a mule, going over the Santa Fe trail, leaving his wife and small son, O. A. Carpenter, with relatives in Independence. He remained two years in California working at his trade and returned by water, coming around Cape Horn into the Atlantic ocean, up the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, landing north of Independence at old Wayne City landing. He lived at Independence until 1873, when he bought a farm in

Cass County and moved there and engaged in farming. He now resides in Freeman, Mo. His children are as follow: Mrs. Robert S. Kimsey; J. W. Carpenter, Pueblo, Colo.; Mrs. Anna Laura Gillespie, Cass County, Mo.; Mrs. Emily Pearl Beaver, Colby, Kan. Since she was 13 years old to the time of her marriage, Mrs. Kimsey was reared by her grandmother. Her mother, Sarah Ellen (Chiles) Carpenter was born April 21, 1854 and is a daughter of James Ramsey and Jane (Kimsey) Chiles, the former of whom was a son of Joseph Chiles, a Jackson County pioneer who came here from Kentucky when a young man. Joseph Chiles was married in Westport to Polly Ann Stephenson, later locating permanently in California, rearing ten children. After their marriage in 1853, J. R. Chiles and wife started across the plains enroute to California on April 2. They made a home in California and remained there, Mrs. Chiles dying in California. Some years after her death, J. R. Chiles returned to Missouri and married Addie Johnson.

Aaron Overton, great grandfather of Mrs. Robert S. Kimsey, had the first flouring mill in Jackson County. This mill was operated by water power and located two miles north of Independence on and in connection with his mill. Mr. Overton operated a still. In the pioneer days he was one of the best known and influential men of the county. He was a kind slave owner and participated in the battle with the Mormons during the Mormon trouble.

The Kimsey residence in Fort Osage township is undergoing remodeling and is being transformed into a pretty modern bungalow which is attractive as well as comfortable.

Mr. Kimsey is a Democrat. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Sibley and the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Buckner and the Royal Arch and Chapter of Independence. Mr. and Mrs. Kimsey are well informed, progressive and hospitable folk who have many warm friends in Jackson County.

**George L. Triplett.**—In this section of the country there are but few of the Old Guard, as the last survivors of the Union army who fought in the Civil War, are called. One of the remarkable facts of history in connection with the settlement and development of western Missouri is that, soon after the close of the Civil War, veterans of the war from the eastern states, who upon arrival home found that there seemed to be but few opportunities for them to succeed, came west and settled in the very country where their late enemies had been strongly entrenched. However, there had never been any great personal animosity between the



soldiers of the North and the South, and Union and Confederate veterans have always lived amicably side by side and cooperated in the development of the country.

George L. Triplett, Union veteran, who for over a half century has made his home in Jackson County, and now living retired at his home on 831 West Waldo street in Independence, is a fine type of citizen who has done well his part in the upbuilding of eastern Jackson County. Mr. Triplett is a native of Ohio, born in Pickaway County, Feb. 14, 1845. He is a son of Lawrence and Sarah Jane (Van Meter) Triplett the former of whom was a native of Kentucky and the latter a native of Ohio.

Sarah Jane (Van Meter) Triplett was a daughter of Abraham Van Meter, a native of Virginia, so it will thus be seen that George L. Triplett is descended from Southern stock. Lawrence Triplett was a son of John H. Triplett, who also was born in Virginia, emigrated to Kentucky and thence to Ohio. Tradition says that a Triplett served in the American Revolution and that the Triplettts are descended from English stock. Two sons of Sir Thomas Triplett, a former dean of Westminster Abbey, immigrated to America from England and settled in the colony of Virginia. On the maternal side, Abraham Van Meter was a son of Joseph Van Meter who probably served in the American revolution.

To Lawrence and Sarah Jane Triplett were born three children: Laura, deceased; Isabelle, wife of Nelson Reeves, Oak Grove, Mo.; and George L., subject of this review.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, George L. Triplett enlisted in Company H, Thirtieth Ohio Volunteers and served two years with the Union armies. He saw service with the Army of the Potomac and the Western Army and fought in the battle and Siege of Vicksburg, South Mountain, Antietam and the Second Battle of Bull Run. He received an honorable discharge from the army in 1863 and returned home to the parental farm.

Mr. Triplett was married in 1866 to Miss Margaret Elizabeth Lane who was born in Ohio, a daughter of Solomon and Ruanna (Alcon) Lane, of Ohio. She was born in 1844. The children born to this marriage are as follow: Van Meter, John F., Gustavus F., Florence J., Gertrude L., Charles R., De Loss and Sarah E. Van Meter is a retired farmer living at 111 North Delaware street, Independence. John F. died at the age of 33 years of typhoid fever. Gustavus F. was born in 1871 and is an extensive farmer living north of Oak Grove on the Triplett home place. Florence is the wife of W. A. Cannon of Grain Valley has one son, Lawrence. Gertrude is the wife of Dr. W. R. Henderson, formerly of Oak Grove, now



practicing in Old Mexico, has one son, Franklin P. Henderson. Charles R. Triplett is a farmer living northwest of Oak Grove is married and has three children, George, Mary and Charles. De Loss Triplett lives at Oak Grove, married Dora Gordon. Miss Sarah E. Triplett is at home with her parents. The late John F. Triplett was well and favorably known in eastern Jackson County and for some years was successfully engaged in farming and conducted a grain and live stock business at Levasy.

George F. Triplett came to Jackson County in 1868 and made his first location within one mile of the present Triplett homestead in Fort Osage township. His father-in-law and family had also come to this county from Ohio and Mr. Lane had purchased a farm which Mr. Triplett bought and proceeded to develop. Mr. Triplett purchased the Triplett home place in 1892. He and his son Gustavus F. Triplett own together over 440 acres of land, some of the best and most valuable in Jackson County. Mr. Triplett moved to Independence in 1910.

He is a Republican and is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, McPherson Post No. 4.

**William Southern, Jr.**, editor and publisher of The Independence "Examiner," was born in Tennessee, Nov. 4, 1864, and is a son of John Nelson Southern, well known attorney of Independence, a sketch of whom appears in this volume. William Southern, Jr., came to Independence with his parents, in 1869, and was educated at Westminster College, Fulton, Mo. He was employed in various newspaper offices until he founded the "Examiner," in February, 1898. The Independence "Daily Examiner" now has a circulation of 2,750 copies daily, and is a large, well printed, ably edited seven column sheet. While the "Examiner" is Democratic in political matters, the editor is independent in his views, and this paper is fearless in its editorial expression at all times.

Mr. Southern was married in February, 1892, to Miss Emma Proctor, a daughter of Dr. Alexander Proctor, of Independence. Mr. and Mrs. Southern have two daughters: Caroline, at home; and Mary, wife of George P. Wallace, of Independence.



Mr. Southern has served two terms as president of the Missouri State Press Association, and has filled the office of president of the Missouri State Historical Society one term. He is a member of the board of trustees of the Historical Society, a position which he has held for the past ten years.

He was president of the Masonic Building and Investment Company, which erected the Masonic Building in Independence. Mr. Southern has been affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons since 1898, and has served the order as Master and High Priest.

**Thomas C. Blackwell**, a well known and successful stockman and farmer, and an extensive land owner in Prairie township, is one of Jackson County's progressive citizens. Mr. Blackwell was born at Richmond, Ky., Sept. 26, 1855, and is a son of John R. and Matilda (Chenault) Blackwell. John R. Blackwell was a Kentuckian, born at Richmond, Ky., in 1823. He was engaged in farming and stock raising in early life in his native State and in 1869, came to Jackson County, and bought land. Here he engaged in farming and stock raising, and met with unusual success in his undertaking. He died in 1904, and at the time of his death was the owner of 3,000 acres of land. His wife, Matilda (Chenault) Blackwell, was also a native of Kentucky. She died in 1846, at about 45 years of age. She was a devout Christian woman, and a consistent member of the Christian Church. John R. Blackwell was a son of Randolph and Frances (Jett) Blackwell, both also natives of Kentucky, who spent their lives in that State. They were the parents of 12 children, of whom John R. was the youngest.

Thomas C. Blackwell received his early education in the public schools of Jackson County, and later attended William Jewell College at Liberty, Mo., and Bryant's School at Independence, Mo. Thus equipped with a good education, he began life as a farmer and stockman. At the death of his father, he inherited a part of the estate, which consisted of large land holdings in Jackson County, and since that time, he has acquired additional land, and now owns 1,800 acres of valuable land, upon which he has made extensive improvements. He is an extensive stock feeder, feeding large quantities of cattle for beef, and is recognized as one of the successful feeders in this section of the State.

Mr. Blackwell was united in marriage May 23, 1888, with Miss Sally Morgan Blackwell, a native of Winchester, Ky. She is a daughter of Armstead and Sally (Murphy) Blackwell, both natives of Kentucky, the former of whom is now deceased, and the mother resides with her daugh-



ter, Mrs. Thomas C. Blackwell. Mrs. Blackwell is one of three children born to her parents, as follows: Felix, deceased; Mrs. Blackwell, and Lillie, deceased.

Thomas C. Blackwell was the eldest of three children born to his parents, the others being John R., who resides in Prairie Home township, and Anna, deceased.

To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Blackwell have been born three children: Randolph, deceased; Felix G., born Jan. 9, 1892, resides at home with his parents; and Thomas C., deceased.

Mr. Blackwell is a Democrat, and Mrs. Blackwell and Felix G. are members of the Presbyterian church. The Blackwell family have been prominently identified with the growth and development of Jackson County for many years, and rank among its foremost citizens.

**George Jenkins**, elder of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, First Quorum of Seventy, Independence, Mo., was born at Byrneville, Harrison County, Ind., April 1, 1862. He was a son of Jonathan and Hester Ann (McCullough) Jenkins, both of whom are deceased.

Jonathan Jenkins was born in Kentucky, Oct. 28, 1823, and died in Indiana, Aug. 5, 1897. His wife, Hester Ann, was born Dec. 7, 1826, and died Sept. 12 1909. Jonathan Jenkins was left an orphan in Kentucky by the death of his father, in 1827. After his father's death, his mother took her family and removed to Harrison County, where he was reared and married, afterwards devoting his life to farming pursuits. The children of the Jenkins family besides George Jenkins, of this review, are: Isaac, born Dec. 29, 1849, died in March, 1903; Julia Ann, born Jan. 25, 1852, is living on the Jenkins home place in Indiana; Thomas, born Jan. 11, 1854, lives in California, postoffice, "Sur"; David, born Oct. 25, 1855, Independence, Mo.; Jonathan, Jr., born Aug. 27, 1857, Byrneville, Harrison County, Ind.; Spencer, born Jan. 31, 1860, Byrneville, Ind.; Lavina, born Aug. 22, 1864, died April 2, 1887; Eddie, born May 4, 1867, died March 21, 1873; Charlotte, born May 4, 1867, died Sept. 14, 1883. The two youngest children were twins.

George Jenkins obtained sufficient education in the schools of his native county to enable him to obtain a school certificate. He followed farming until he was 26 years of age. He became interested in the creed of the Latter Day Saints, united with the church, and began preaching in his home locality. After a few years spent in local ministerial work he was sent as a missionary, and for several years traveled in Indiana, Illi-



nois, Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Arkansas, spreading the gospel according to the faith and teachings of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He came to Independence March 9, 1911, and was first connected with the Stone church, and is now connected with the Walnut Park church.

Rev. Jenkins was married March 25, 1884, to Martha Ellen Evinger, a native of Floyd County, Ind. She was born July 8, 1862, and is a daughter of Solomon and Rebecca (Summers) Evinger, who were natives of Virginia. Mrs. Jenkins has a brother, Samuel Evinger, of Hamburg, Iowa.

The other children born to Solomon and Rebecca Evinger are: Mrs. Mariah Keithley, Georgetown, Ind.; and Sylvester Evinger, a fruit buyer and dealer, New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins reside at 1123 South Noland street.

**James A. Stayton**, member of an old and highly respected pioneer family of Jackson County, has lived true to family tradition, and occupies a high place in the citizenship of this county. Mr. Stayton is the owner of 252 acres of valuable farm lands in Brooking and Blue townships, south of Independence. He has resided on his land since Aug. 31, 1881, and has created in that time the finest farm plant in his neighborhood. The Stayton farms are improved with three handsome, modern residences, and all other buildings on the land are kept up in excellent shape. He and his sons are raising pure-bred Duroc Jersey hogs and cattle for the markets. An orchard covering two and a half acres supplies a great deal of fruit.

James A. Stayton was born June 22, 1857, on the old Stayton home place, east of Independence, which was settled upon by his grandfather, John Stayton, in 1830. John Stayton was a native of Tennessee, moved from his native State to Kentucky, and then came to Jackson County, bringing a retinue of slaves, who in 1830 began the work of clearing the land which he had purchased from the government. John Stayton became one of the largest land owners of his day, and owned a tract of land extending along the road to the limits of Independence. Upon his death he willed to his five sons all of the land which he owned east of Independence. These five sons were: Thomas, Arthur, Christopher, Moses and Landes. There were five daughters also in the family; Mrs. Martha Stout, living at 3010 Jackson avenue, Kansas City, is the only one now living of this family.

Moses Stayton, father of James A. Stayton, was born Dec. 6, 1828, and died Aug. 29, 1874. He made his home on the old Stayton place, upon



JAMES A. STAYTON AND FAMILY





which his father had erected a fine brick house in 1837, across from the Holke home, as it now stands. This home has since been torn down. When Order No. 11 was issued the Stayton family moved to Miller County, Mo., and remained there until the close of the Civil War, in 1865. The wife of Moses Stayton was Lucy Anne Hite, who was born Sept. 18, 1838, and died Oct. 11, 1876. She was born in Kentucky, and was a daughter of James Coleman Hite, who came to Jackson County from Kentucky in 1853, and after remaining here for a time, started on the return trip to Kentucky. Meeting some friends who were Missouri bound on the way, he was induced to locate in Miller County. Moses and Lucy Anne were married in 1855. Their children were: Mrs. Rebecca Susan Adcock, wife of Dr. Adcock, born Nov. 10, 1855, died April 1, 1910; James A., of this review; John William, died at the age of 13 years; Martha Lee, wife of John B. Strode, of Sniabar township, born Sept. 7, 1862; Lucy Frances, wife of Ben Fisher, San Benito, Texas, born in Miller County Sept. 8, 1864.

James A. Stayton was educated in the district school, and Independence High School and Woodland College. He was married in January, 1882, to Miss Kittie McBride, who was born Sept. 25, 1856, in Independence, a daughter of William E. and Minerva (Dresser) McBride, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. The McBrides came from Kentucky to Jackson County in 1844. William E. was a carpenter and followed his trade in Independence for some years, and also established a nursery and fruit farm, which he managed until his death.

The children born to James A. and Kittie (McBride) Stayton are as follow: James Arthur, Charles Howard, Lela Bryan. James Arthur, Jr., was born Nov. 9, 1882, married Mary Cox, in 1909, and has one child, Kathryn. Charles Howard was born Nov. 6, 1891, was married June 26, 1916, to Nellie Fay Smith, and has one son, Charles Howard, Jr. Lela Bryan Stayton was born Oct. 29, 1896, and is at home with her parents. These children were all educated in the district school and Independence High School. The sons of Mr. Stayton are living in homes built by their father on the Stayton land.

Mr. Stayton is a Democrat. He is a member of the Christian Church, and he and his family hold high rank among the best citizenship of Jackson County. He is a well posted man of affairs who has made a success of his life work, and enjoys the respect and esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

**Thomas P. Fraher**, collector for the Kansas City Gas Company, Independence, Mo., was born Jan. 22, 1851, and is a son of James and Ellen (Johnston) Fraher, the former of whom was born in County Limerick, Ireland, and the latter born in County Donegal, Ireland.

Both of Mr. Fraher's parents immigrated to America when young, and were married in Massachusetts. They migrated from New England to Clay County, Mo., in 1850, traveling up the Missouri River by steamboat to Liberty Landing. From 1850 to 1900, James Fraher was engaged in the mercantile business at Liberty, in partnership with his brother, Philip, both he and his brother dying in Liberty. Mrs. Fraher died in 1904, and two years later her husband followed her to the grave. The children of the Fraher family are: Thomas P., of this review; James W. Fraher, formerly an attorney in Kansas City, now living on a farm in Platte County, Mo.; John, is in business in Kansas City, but makes his home in Platte County; Edward, living on the home farm in Platte County; Robert Emmett, died at the age of 16 years; Sylvester, died when 13 years old; Mary, Johann, and Agnes, are deceased.

After studying at William Jewell College, Thomas P. Fraher engaged in business with his father until 1884. He then came to Jackson County, and for a time was employed as a shoe salesman in Kansas City. He then operated a shoe store on the north side of the square in Independence. Since 1904, he has been in the employ of the Kansas City Gas Company, as collector, with offices at 910 Grand avenue, Kansas City, Mo.

Mr. Fraher was married in Independence to Miss Agnes Brady, a daughter of John Brady, and sister of Charles W. Brady, postmaster of Independence. Eight children have been born to this marriage: John Brady Fraher, who died in infancy; Mrs. Loretta Higbee, 1000 North Liberty street; Thomas P. J. Fraher; Mrs. Hester Greenlee, Independence, formerly a teacher in the city schools; Charles, with the Standard Oil Company, Sugar Creek; Herbert, also in the employ of the Standard Oil Company; Alida, an office employe of the Standard Oil Company; Agnes, a student in the Independence High School.

Thomas P. J. Fraher served in the World War. He enlisted in the United States Army in August, 1915, and was sent to the Mexican Border. When General Pershings' Expeditionary Army was sent overseas to France for participation in the great war, he accompanied the vanguard, and was located for a time with the Army of Occupation in Germany after the armistice. He served with Battery B, Sixth Field Artillery, First Division, and took part in much arduous service. He is now stationed



at Camp Taylor, Ky. His military record is an unusual one, and deserving of special mention. He was cited for distinguished service by Major General Summerall, the following being excerpt from the official citation: "Horseshoer Philip Fraher, Battery B, Sixth Field Artillery. On the night of Oct. 11, 1918, 'HS. Fraher volunteered to act as cannoneer for the firing battery, and while riding a caisson to the battery position the lead team and the driver were wounded by shell fire. HS. Fraher carried the wounded man to a place of safety, and then drove the team to the battery position, where he acted as cannoneer, an act which is not required in strict interpretation of duty, but which was necessary owing to the large number of casualties in the firing battery.' "

Philip Fraher was also awarded the Victory Medal, the following being an extract from that order: "Headquarters Sixth Field Artillery, Germany, June 7, 1919. Special Orders No. 111. Extract 1. Under provisions of G. O. 75 G. H. Q., c. s., the following named men, members of Battery B, Sixth Field Artillery, are awarded the Victory Medal and four Battle Clasps, having participated in the Montdidier-Noyon, Aisene-Marne, St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne engagements with the American Expeditionary Forces: Horseshoer Fraher, 125637, Philip. By order of Colonel Margetts William P. Bledsoe, Captain 6th F. A., Personnel Adjutant."

For the past 20 years the Fraher family residence has been located at 1100 North Osage street. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

**Fred Koehler**, jeweler and optician, labor organizer and leader, is one of the most intelligent and versatile progressive citizens of Independence. His jewelry establishment is located at 221 West Lexington street, and is a model of neatness and arrangement, and has a good patronage. Mr. Koehler was born at Winchester, Clark County, Mo., Nov. 29, 1870.

His father, George M. Koehler, was born near the Bavaria-Swiss border line, and came to America with his parents when he was five years of age. His parents settled at Nauvoo, Ill., and both died of cholera during the epidemic. He enlisted with the Union forces at the outbreak of the Civil War, and served as a private soldier in Company B, Seventeen Iowa infantry, and fought in 17 battles under Gen. W. T. Sherman. He was wounded while marching with Sherman to the sea. The great battles in which he participated were: Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain, Vicksburg, Fort Donelson, Battle of the Wilderness, Island No. 10, Chickamauga, and others. He enlisted in the army when but 16 years of age, having been born in 1845. He married Julia Glassner, of Nauvoo, Ill.,



who bore him children as follow: Mrs. Margaret Robertson, Kansas City; Fred, subject of this sketch; George M., Jr., a baker at Rosedale, Kan.; Mrs. Louise Knoch, Lincoln, Kan.; Mrs. Anna Hunter, Mount Washington; J. A., manager of the Herald office at Lamoni, Iowa; Charles, in the employ of the Standard Oil Company; Mrs. Amelia Good, Wakefield, Kan.; Rev. Arthur Koehler, living in Maine; Daniel and Grace, died in infancy.

When 11 years of age, Fred Koehler entered the employ of the C. A. Murdock Manufacturing Company, and was in the employ of this concern for 18 years, rising to the position of foreman and head miller of this establishment before he resigned. During his employment in Kansas City he became interested in labor organization, and organized the Kansas City Bakers Union, serving as the first president of this union, and as delegate to the Industrial Council for two years. He learned the jewelry and watchmakers trade in Kansas City, established himself in business, and for a time he had charge of three shops in the city. He came to Independence in 1907, and established his present thriving business.

Mr. Koehler was married in 1894 to Miss Ada Cleveland, of Kansas City, a Canadian by birth. They have seven children: Grace, who is now Mrs. Earl Moore; George, died in infancy; Hazel, Julia, Margaret, Dorothy and Frederick, Jr.

Mrs. Koehler is an ardent worker in public affairs, especially in the work of the parent-teacher association, her greatest efforts being in behalf of home economics, she having served as chairman of that department of service in the council of the parent-teacher association of Independence, since the organization of that body in 1912, and is still in that office. One of the many things that she has done in that office was to manage for three consecutive years a movable school of home economics, put on through the Missouri University extension course, wherein upwards of 400 of the best homekeepers of Independence availed themselves of the opportunity of a five-day course in scientific home keeping.

The Koehler family residence is located at 105 North Crysler street. Mr. Koehler is a member of the Woodmen of the World, is past dictator of the Loyal Order of Moose, and is foreman of the American Yeomen. Mr. Koehler is the original inventor of the Mystic Wonder Clock, which runs without visible signs of power. For many years he has been associated with labor interests, and has made hundreds of addresses in the interests of labor. He has always been a progressive and aggressive thinker whose ideas are original because of the fact that he is self-educated, and has always been a student. Mr. Koehler has built up a splendid library of

over 3,000 volumes, and is a lover of good books. His mind is stored with information, and he is a ready conversationalist, one of those rare personages who can do his work and talk entertainingly upon a variety of subjects. His retentive memory and the ability to readily comprehend and dissect the gist of what he reads have made him a well informed man.

**Thomas L. Milton**, residing on Walnut street, Independence, member of one of the old Jackson County families, a railroad man and farmer, was born in what is now Kansas City, Oct. 6, 1866. He is a son of the late Benjamin Milton, an account of whom is given in connection with the sketch of R. F. Milton in this volume.

When Thomas L. Milton was six years old, his father, who had fallen heir to the old Milton home place in Virginia, sold his holdings in Jackson County and returned to the old home in the Virginia mountain country. His boyhood days were spent there, the longing to return to Missouri always present in his mind, however. When he became old enough he determined to follow his older brothers to Missouri. Accordingly, when 16 years old, his mother gave him money enough to pay for his railroad ticket to Kansas City where his brother, J. L. Milton was working as car man in the yards. When he arrived in the city he had but 30 cents in his pocket and did not know where to find his brother. He tried to stay in the railroad station all night but was "shooed" away by a policeman and forced to spend 25 cents for a bed which was not to his liking. The next morning he spent his remaining five cents for some cookies on which he breakfasted. He then found his brother with the assistance of a kindly station employe. His brother gave him some money and directed him how to get to his uncle's home near Buckner where he wanted to find work, the noise of the city not then appealing to him. As he was waiting for the train for Buckner he was accosted kindly by Wm. Johnson of the Buckner neighborhood, who volunteered to look after him and see that he found his uncle. He soon arrived at Buckner, stopped at the hotel over night and the next day went to his uncle's home. Not long afterward he began work for the Missouri Pacific railroad as car man and held this place until 1888. He then went to Albuquerque, N. M. with his brother George Milton, and was employed on the Santa Fe railroad for two years. In 1890, he went to San Bernardino, Calif., and was employed on the California Southern railroad until 1896. The great railroad strike of 1894 having taken place, he returned to Jackson County and bought 80 acres of land upon which he resided until 1898. He again went to railroading and went to Raton, N. M. and worked for the Santa Fe one year. In



1899 he went to Colorado Springs and for a period of 17 years he was a conductor on the Colorado Midland. The government ownership period having begun in 1916, the Colorado Midland, not being a paying concern, was abandoned. Since his return to Jackson County, Mr. Milton has been residing on a ten acre tract on Walnut street and is temporarily switching in the yards at Kansas City. He is, by nature and inclination a farmer and expects to spend his remaining years engaged in farming pursuits. Mr. Milton is owner of 160 acres of land in Barton County, Mo., 80 acres in New Mexico, city property and ten acres of land at Lakeworth, Fla.

Mr. Milton was married Jan. 6, 1900 to Marguerite Doolin, daughter of Daniel and Kate (Reddington) Doolin, the former of whom was a native of New York and the latter a native of Ireland. Mr. Doolin has been a resident of Kansas for years and is a large land owner. He is aged 87 years and resides at Williamburg, Kan. He has reared a family of eight children: John Doolin, residing on the home place in Kansas; William, L. Doolin, died May 25, 1909; Winifred, at home with her parents; Mrs. Maria Conroy, Minnesota; Mrs. Marguerite Milton, of this review; Daniel, Libbie Kate and Alice, at home.

The children born to Thomas L. and Marguerite Milton are as follow: Katharine, aged 18 years; Thomas, 14 years old; Ernest, aged 10 years; William, 7 years of age, and Marguerite, 5 years old.

Mr. Milton is a Democrat. Mrs. Milton is a member of the Catholic Church. He is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias, the Order of Railway Conductors and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen.

**George W. Mayhan.**—Born on a ranch in the vast plains of Texas, George W. Mayhan lived the earlier years of his life amid real frontier scenes and environment. For years he was on the very outposts of civilization, and enjoyed the wild, free life of the unsettled plains, as a cattleman and plainsman. He was born in Sherman County, Texas, June 20, 1854, and is a son of Augustus and Mary (Maxwell) Mayhan, who were pioneers in Texas.

Augustus Mayhan was a son of Moses Mayhan, of Scotch-Irish descent, descended from the old American pioneer stock of North Carolina, and who was one of the first settlers in the unpeopled wastes of northern Texas, going to that wild country as early as 1820. He was a cattle raiser, who owned large herds of cattle, which ranged at will over the vast, unfenced prairies of bygone days. Augustus Mayhan served four years in the Civil War, as a volunteer in a north Texas regiment, contracted



measles during his service, an affliction settled on his bronchial tubes, and he died in 1870.

George W. Mayhan came to Jackson County in 1878, and settled on his present place. The lure of the great plains of his native country again drew him southwestward, however, and from 1881 to 1888 he was engaged in the cattle business in New Mexico. Herding and driving cattle was his early occupation, and he first went to New Mexico from Texas, before coming to Jackson County. On his second trip to the Southwest he journeyed by way of Lees Summit, Olathe, Kan., and Burlingame, Kan., over the Santa Fe trail, to Santa Fe, N. M., with four horses, a wagon and buggy. He was accompanied by his brother Augustus. For seven years they handled cattle and drove large herds to northern points, as far as the vicinity of Julesburg, Colo., one great herd bringing \$11.00 a head in Nebraska. During one winter they held 30,000 cattle on the border, and on Christmas day of that winter, waded the Rio Grande, cut down a bee tree, and rifled the tree of a large store of honey. Indians were numerous during his earlier years of his cattle herding experience, but he never suffered inconveniences from them. N. R. Mayhan tells a funny story of an experience he had when driving cattle from north Texas. Meeting a company of mounted negro soldiers on the Pecos River, while on the way to Fort Clark, one of the soldiers said to him: "Indians will scalp you, befo' you get there, boy." That night the Indians stampeded the horses of the command, and they were forced to walk. Indians were continuously doing things of this character, and would frequently help themselves to beef cattle, but a few would not be missed from the great herds.

Mr. Mayhan met a Missouri girl in New Mexico, whom he married in January, 1878. She was Miss Roanne Daniel, born in Jackson County in 1860, a daughter of Leonard Daniel, who died in Kansas in 1861, whither he had gone to espouse the cause of the freeholders. Eleven living children have blessed this union, forming one of the largest individual families ever reared in Jackson County. They are: Fred, a rancher in Colorado; Ida, living in Montana; Zebulon, a ranchman in Custer County, Mont.; Ernest, a rancher in Montana; Leonard, aged 33 years, enlisted as a volunteer in the National Army, and served throughout the World War as a lieutenant of the American Expeditionary Forces, having been three times wounded while fighting on the Western Front in France; Morgan, lives near Denver, Colo.; Mrs. Leonore Claussen, lives at Mount Washington, Mo.; Mrs. Lura Green, lives at Lone Tree, Mo., mother of two children;

Mrs. Nellie Hagan, at home with her parents, has two children, Ralph, at home, Grace, aged 14 years, at home.

Mr. Mayhan is the owner of 215 acres, 160 acres of which is comprised in his home place. A feature of the Mayhan farm is the fine orchard of 15 acres, which is from 20 to 25 years old, and bears excellent crops. Mr. Mayhan picks and handles the crop on his own account. He is an independent voter, a member of the Christian church, and is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Blue Springs.

**Andrew Jackson Grubb**, farmer and stockman, proprietor of a fine farm of 301.5 acres, located just south of Oak Grove, in Sniabar township, has resided on his land since 1867 when his father settled in Jackson County. Besides his home farm, Mr. Grubb is owner of a good farm of 230 acres situated one and a half miles north of Oak Grove, another farm of 71 acres two and a half miles north of town, and 50 foot frontage of town property in Oak Grove. The home place is well improved with a large residence of seven rooms and a barn, 60 x 36 feet. This farm is one of the most productive in Jackson County; all of the Grubb farms are fertile tracts of land. Mr. Grubb rents out the greater part of his land but carefully looks after all of the property.

Andrew Jackson Grubb was born in Fayette County, Ohio, Sept. 15, 1855, the son of John and Mary (Ralston) Grubb, both of whom were natives of the Buckeye state. The Grubb family came to Jackson County in about 1867. John Grubb purchased a small farm upon which he made his home during the remainder of his life. He died in 1900, aged 80 years. Mrs. Mary Grubb died in 1890. They were parents of nine children as follow: Mrs. Jane McCartney, living in Iowa; Mrs. Ann McCartney, deceased; Henry and Margaret, living on an adjoining farm; Samuel, deceased; Robert lives in Iowa; George is deceased; and John Andrew Jackson, subject of this review.

Robert, Samuel and Andrew J. Grubb worked together after they came to Jackson County and accumulated a farm which they cultivated jointly until Robert Grubb's removal to Iowa. Samuel and Andrew J., then purchased Robert's interests in the land and the two brothers then tilled their land in partnership until Samuel's death. Samuel Grubb willed his share of their farm which at that time consisted of about 300 acres to his brother Andrew J. Samuel Grubb died in 1903. Since that time A. J. Grubb has continued to add to his possessions until he is now one of the large land owners of the county.

A. J. Grubb was married June 24, 1903 to Miss Dora Porter. Mr. and



Mrs. Grubb have one son, Victor, born Aug. 15, 1904, a student in the Oak Grove High School. Mrs. Mary (Porter) Grubb was born in Jackson County, in 1869. She is a daughter of Hugh and Mary (Gibson) Porter. Her father, Hugh Porter was born in Rutherford County, Tenn., Jan. 27, 1826, and died in Jackson County, March 6, 1915. He came from Tennessee to Jackson County about 1838 and was later married to Mary Gibson, a daughter of Silas Gibson, one of the early pioneers of Jackson County, who became a large land owner and was prominent in the early day affairs of Jackson County. She was born Jan. 20, 1835 and died May 27, 1912. To Hugh and Mary Porter were born children as follow: Mrs. J. B. Brizendine, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Mrs. Mark Gore, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Belle Goodloe, residing near Woods Chapel; Mrs. Dora Grubb, of this review; Mrs. T. J. Wiegant, Blue Springs; Silas, Sniabar township; Lee, Kansas City, Mo.; Samuel, Sniabar township; Clay, living on a farm south of Blue Springs.

Hugh Porter was a soldier in the Confederate army during the Civil War. He first served in the state militia under Captain Smith and then enlisted in the Confederate army. He served in the battle fought for control of Independence and during this engagement had three horses shot from under him. He received his discharge from the service some time later on account of ill health.

Mr. Grubb is a Democrat. He and Mrs. Grubb are members of the Methodist Church, South.

**Arthur N. Adams**, attorney-at-law, with offices at 1327 Bank of Commerce building, Kansas City, Mo., is, in many respects, a "chip off the old block." His father was the late Hon. J. M. Adams, who in his day was the most popular citizen of eastern Jackson County.

Mr. Adams was born Jan. 15, 1872, near Pink Hill, Mo., and when two years old, was taken to the Adams home place in Fort Osage township by his parents. He was there reared to young manhood, attended the local schools and entered the State University at Columbia, from which institution he was graduated in 1897, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He was admitted to the bar that year and began the practice of his profession in 1897. During nearly 23 years of practice in the counties of Missouri, Mr. Adams has achieved a reputation as a keen, resourceful, conscientious and painstaking lawyer who gives himself heart and soul to the interests of his clients. He has won many notable cases during his career and has been counsel in many important litigations.

Mr. Adams defended J. Lamartine Hudspeth from the charge of mur-



der. He defended the title to the old Hudspeth farm and won the case. Malinda P. Wood deeded the land to certain parties and some of the other heirs tried to break the deed. Mr. Adams carried the case to the State Supreme Court and was awarded a favorable decision in the interests of the grantees, the court sustaining the provisions of the deed. He has had many cases in the Supreme Court.

In the case of the Belfast Investment Company vs. Curry et al., as to whether the statute of limitations began to run against the right of dower, regardless of the possession of the property, was a very important one which Mr. Adams handled, and his contention was sustained by the Supreme Court. For the past 15 years he has represented the Missouri State Dental Board as counsel and has carried many cases to the Supreme Court in the interest of the board. He has handled successfully, several important partition cases to the entire satisfaction of the interested parties. He represented the Kansas City Title and Trust Company in the trials of many of their cases in litigation.

Mr. Adams was married July 24, 1901 to Miss Marie L. Eaton, of Kansas City, a daughter of John and Sarah E. (Wilfley) Eaton. Mr. and Mrs. Adams have two children: Eaton Adams, born Sept. 26, 1902; and Arthur N., Jr., born July 3, 1904.

Mr. Adams is a member of the City and State Bar Associations and the Kansas City Club. He is prominent among the legal fraternity of the city and state and is recognized as one of the leaders of the Kansas City bar. He is active in the affairs of the Modern Woodmen of America and has served as national representative of this order, attending three National Conventions and serving as chairman of the Missouri delegation on two occasions. He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and the Royal Neighbors.

**William F. Owen.**—The Owen farm in Sniabar and Fort Osage townships, is an attractive piece of property of 160 acres, the greater part of which is rich, bottom land. The residence sets on a sloping hillside, the site commanding a view of the entire farm. Every improvement on the place has been placed there by Wm. F. Owen, the proprietor, since he purchased the farm in 1892 from the Alma Owen estate. A pretty residence surrounded by shade trees is the family home; good barns and two large concrete silos are necessary adjuncts to the farming operations. Mr. Owen raises Shorthorn cattle and does general farming. He was born Jan. 3, 1862 in McLain County, Ill.

His father, Alma Owen, was born in Tazewell County, Ill., Aug. 5, 1833,

and died at his home in Sniabar township, Jackson County, in March, 1907. He was a son of Edward Owen, a native of Vermont, of Welsh extraction. Edward Owen married a Miss Sowers of Scotch-Irish descent and he was a pioneer in Illinois. In 1836 the parents of Alma Owen moved to Caldwell County, Mo. and remained there for two years, then returned to McLean County, Ill. where they resided for three years and soon went to Marshall County, that state. When Alma Owen became of age he went to McLean County and learned engineering and milling and followed this trade for several years. Nov. 28, 1858, he was married to Sabethna Barnhouse, who was born in Darke County, Ohio, Oct. 13, 1840 and died March 16, 1919. She was a native of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Owen had two brothers, Jacob and Nelson Barnhouse, who fought with the Union forces in the Civil War. Alma Owen had four brothers who served with Illinois regiments in the same conflict, viz: Lee, Nethi, Beroni and Frazier.

Alma Owen came to Jackson County in November, 1866. He first purchased 120 acres of land and improved the tract in later years with one of the then finest homes in the county. The farm which he purchased was the old Ragland property which had been allowed to revert to almost a wilderness during the Civil War period. At the time of purchase there were only 20 acres of the land suitable for cultivation. He accumulated several hundred acres of land but met with reverses in his later days through being too willing to give his name as security for debts of some of his friends. Forced to liquidate the debts of those whom he had befriended he lost all of his large estate, excepting the home place of 160 acres. Six children were born to Alma and Sabethna Owen as follows: Charles H., Alberta, Canada; Edward J., a farmer in Fort Osage township; William H., of this review; Mrs. Ida Baxter, living at Woods Chapel; Ira, living on the old home place; Mrs. Celestia Patterson, Idaho; Frank, died in Idaho.

William H. Owen received his education in the Owen district school and has always been a hard working, industrious tiller of the soil. He purchased his present place which was formerly the old Roberts farm in 1892 and has made a success of his work and is rated as one of the most substantial and enterprising agriculturists and stockmen of the county.

Mr. Owen was married in 1887 to Miss Lizzie Flynn, daughter of Patrick and Margaret Flynn, deceased, of Jackson County. Mr. and Mrs. Owen have one son, Duward L., living on the home place. He was born in August, 1888 and is married to Emma Hagan who has borne him four



children, namely: Lee, aged nine years; Louise, six years old; and twins, Frances and Fay, aged two years.

Mr. Owen is independent in his political beliefs. He served for six years as director of the Owen school district. He is a member of the Brotherhood of American Yeoman and is popular and well liked in his home neighborhood being esteemed as a broad minded and excellent citizen.

**Thomas Jefferson Hedrick**, member of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture, well known and successful livestock and grain dealer, Buckner, Mo., is a native of Tennessee. He was born Jan. 4, 1861, and is a son of James and Elizabeth (Ray) Hedrick, who came to Jackson County in 1896, and settled on a farm, where they spent the remainder of their days. James Hedrick died in 1903, at the age of 69 years. Elizabeth, his wife, died in 1898. James Hedrick served in the Union Army during the Civil War, with a Tennessee regiment. His children are as follows: William and James, deceased; John, Atherton, Mo.; Thomas Jefferson, of this review; Robert, died in Oklahoma; a daughter died in infancy; Eliza, deceased.

T. J. Hedrick, of this review, came to Jackson County in the spring of 1878, and for the next four years worked as a farm hand at monthly wages. He then rented a tract of land, and later purchased a farm. While engaged in farming he became interested in the buying and selling of livestock, and thus found his niche in the commercial and agricultural life of Jackson County. He has made a pronounced success as a livestock dealer. Mr. Hedrick removed to Buckner in 1898, and has made this city the central point for the conduct of his large business. His business was established in 1889. The Hedrick Grain Elevator at Buckner has a capacity of 10,000 bushels of grain, and the carload shipments from the elevators have been as high as 100 cars in past years.

Mr. Hedrick was married in 1883 to Miss Maude Mershon, a daughter of Amos Mershon. Of five children born to this marriage four are living: Rex V., cashier of the Farmers Bank of Buckner; Guy C., engaged in the livestock business in Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Rue Chatburn, Buckner, Mo.; Amy, wife of W. M. Larey, of the Farmers Bank of Buckner.

Mr. Hedrick is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Eastern Star, and fraternal insurance orders. He is prominent in the affairs of the Republican party, and is one of the leaders of his party in Missouri. He has



filled various local offices, and has always taken a keen and influential interest in civic matters. At the present time, Mr. Hedrick is a member of the Republican State Central Committee. In 1909 he was appointed by Governor Herbert Hadley a member of the State Board of Agriculture, and has been reappointed by succeeding governors, receiving his last appointment by Governor Frederick D. Gardner, in the fall of 1918.

**Herbert A. Major**, of the firm of Major and Humphrey, men's furnishing store and barber shop, south side of the square, Independence, Mo., is a native of Jackson County, and is a member of one of the pioneer families of Jackson County. He was born on a farm near Pink Hill, in Sniabar township, Aug. 15, 1873.

His parents were Samuel F. and Rachel (Kabrick) Major, the former of whom was born in 1837 in St. Charles County, and died at Blue Springs, Mo., in 1893. During earlier life, Samuel F. Major followed farming pursuits. Rachel (Kabrick) Major was born in Virginia and accompanied her parents to Jackson County when she was a child. The Kabricks settled near Oak Grove. Elsewhere in this volume will be found a full account of the Kabrick family. When Order No. 11 was issued during the Civil War the Kabrick family left Jackson County and went to St. Charles County, with ox teams, crossing the Missouri River at Lexington. The children of the Major family are: Edgar, Kansas City, Mo.; Clarence, Denver, Colo.; Ollie, wife of W. W. Ford, Kansas City, Mo.; Herbert A., of this sketch; Pearl, wife of Wallace Pryor, Kansas City, Mo.; Arthur, Dawson City, Alaska; Frank, Kansas City. It is a remarkable fact that the five Major brothers are barbers, and all have been successful.

Herbert A. Major attended the Blue Springs public schools, learned the trade of barber in his youth, and has followed his trade for the past 30 years. He was first employed in Independence by Henry Bostian, in 1893. His first venture on his own account was in 1898. Later, in 1901, E. R. Humphrey, an experienced drygoods man, was taken into partnerships, and a men's furnishing store was established in the same business room with the barber shop. Major and Humphrey carry a fine stock of goods, and are well established at 115 West Lexington street.

Mr. Major was married in October, 1896, to May Gillespie, a daughter of Robert A. and Amanda M. Gillespie, of Independence, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. Major have a son, Herbert, Jr., aged three years.

Mr. Major is a member of McDonald Lodge, No. 324, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Knights of Pythias, and has been affiliated with the

Modern Woodmen of America for the past 25 years. The Major residence is located at 919 North Liberty street.

A. W. Searcy, a member of an old Missouri pioneer family, was born on a farm in Clay County, Mo., Aug. 15, 1863. His parents were A. W., Sr., and Mary A. (Moore) Searcy, both of whom were natives of Madison County, Ky.

In the year 1838, A. W. Searcy, Sr., accompanied his father and the family to Missouri. His father, R. H. Searcy, settled between Kansas City and Liberty, entering government land, near Winwood Lake. R. H. Searcy not only entered land but each of his sons took up a homestead and developed it. A. W. Searcy, Sr., returned to Kentucky, was there married, and upon his coming back to Clay County, he too, settled upon government land. He developed a fine farm, which was his home for many years, and became prominent in the civic affairs of Clay County, serving as sheriff of the county before the Civil War. His duties as a county official also required that he collect the taxes from the land owners. This necessitated his traveling all over the county and as frequently happened in those days, when few people had any ready money, he would take livestock in payment for the taxes. He would take the cattle, hogs, horses or whatever the farmer paid him, to the market, sell the stock, and if any balance was left over after taking out the county's share, he would return the money to the farmer. On the other hand if the stock fell short in value of the amount due in taxes, he would call upon the farmer to make up the difference. He filled the office of sheriff and collector for several years, and was widely known in Clay County.

A. W. Searcy, Sr., moved to Jackson County after his term as sheriff expired, and settled upon a farm which is now a part of Kansas City. Fifteenth street now runs through an 80 which he owned. He sold this 80 and purchased 40 acres east of Independence in 1881. He was accidentally killed on this place by a horse, and his remains were interred in Salem church cemetery. His widow survived him many years, and died in her ninety-third year. The Searcy children are: R. H. Searcy, Kansas City, Mo.; F. M. Searcy, Independence, Mo.; Josephine Searcy, Raytown, Mo.; Mrs. Mary Anderson, Olathe, Kan.; Cassie and Charline Searcy, Independence, Mo.; A. W. Searcy, Jr., subject of this sketch; Mrs. Sallie Gibson, deceased.

A. W. Searcy, Jr., of this review, followed farming pursuits until 1900. He then came to Independence and was engaged in the coal business for



nine years prior to taking his present position with the W. W. Peacock Grocery, 202 North Liberty street.

Mr. Searcy was married in 1900 to Miss Etta E. Turner, of Independence. The Searcy family residence is located at 419 North Liberty street.

Mr. Searcy is a member of the Woodmen of the World. He is one of the heaviest stockholders of the Jackson County Fair Association and is treasurer of this association, having been a member since its inception in 1906.

Mr. Searcy served for two years as a member of the City Council, and filled the post of deputy county assessor for one year under Assessor Crit Whaley.

During the pioneer days, when A. W. Searcy, Sr., resided in Clay County, wild game was plentiful and the table was usually kept supplied with fresh meat through the prowess of some member of the family as a hunter. On one occasion, the elder Searcy shouldered his rifle and started to follow a deer route which the deer used in passing to and from the river. While in hiding near the path waiting for a deer to pass he noticed some ravens who were making considerable noise. He decided to investigate and found two bucks lying dead, their antlers caught in the top of a fallen tree. It was upon their carcasses that the ravens had been feeding. The antlers were of unusual size and Mr. Searcy took them home, where for many years they were highly prized trophies.

**Christian Ott** was elected mayor of Independence in 1913, and still holds the office, having been elected to four consecutive terms, a record which had never been equalled by any of his predecessors. He has been the choice of the people because he has always given very efficient service, and there are several reasons why—the principle ones being sound business judgment, freedom of the city government from petty politics, and an individual pride on his part in making Independence the best governed city anywhere.

Mayor Ott was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Ott, Sr., who were pioneers in Independence and Jackson County, settling here in 1848. It was in honor of the elder Ott that the Ott school is so named. To this couple were born seven children, four sons and three daughters. Of the sons, one is a physician of Philadelphia, one is a merchant, another is a bank president, and the other is the subject of this article. All are successful in their respective lines. It has been said that their father's last



words were, "I have tried to bring up my children so that they would make good men and women. I think I have done so."

After leaving the parental roof, Christian Ott, Jr., was employed as clerk in a drug store, working there for five years. This store was owned and operated by Dr. J. T. Brown, a substantial citizen of Independence. The most attractive feature of the business according to a recent interview with the mayor, was the proprietor's daughter, Miss Maud Brown, who is the present Mrs. Ott.

Not intending to become a druggist, Mr. Ott entered the employ of the Anderson-Chiles Banking Company, and was later connected with the McCoy Banking Company. He was city treasurer of Independence, and also served as a member of the City Council. His principal occupation, however, was always the buying and selling of real estate, and it has been in this business that he has made most of his money. It has been said of him by business men of Independence that in the matter of a real estate transaction he never makes a mistake, once his mind is made up on a proposition.

Since taking up the duties of mayor he has received attractive offers from big corporations to serve them in an advisory capacity and also in administrative positions. So far he has declined all offers and continues to be mayor of Independence.















